

INSIDE TODAY

Mladic Monday

D. STOJANOVIC
JOVANA GEC

Associated Press

BELGRADE, Serbia (AP) —

Ratko Mladic is eating strawberries and receiving family visits in a Serbian jail, but as early as Monday the ex-general could be on his way to face a war-crimes tribunal in The Hague, possibly joining his former ally Radovan Karadzic on trial for some of the worst horrors of the Balkan wars.

The former Bosnian Serb army commander known for his cruelty and arrogance began issuing demands from behind bars Friday, calling for a TV set and Tolstoy novels, and regaining some of his trademark hubris after a pre-dawn raid in a Serbian village the day before ended his 16 years on the run.

Now a disheveled old man, his family claim he's too ill to stand up to the rigors of a genocide trial and that he's not guilty of crimes including his alleged role in the worst atrocity in Europe since World War II, the massacre that left 8,000 Muslim men and boys in the Srebrenica enclave in Bosnia dead.

Serbia's war crimes court ruled that the 69-year-old is fit to stand trial and that conditions have been met for him to be handed over to the U.N. tribunal in The Hague. A defense lawyer said Mladic would appeal the decision on Monday. The former fugitive could be extradited within hours if that appeal is rejected.

His defense is demanding that an "independent medical commission" examine Mladic — preferably one from Russia, a historical friend of the Serbs.

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Russia offers to help ease Gadhafi out



A portrait of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi is seen on a building in downtown Tripoli, Libya, on Friday, May 27, 2011. Russia abandoned one-time ally Moammar Gadhafi and offered Friday to mediate a deal for the Libyan leader to leave the country he has ruled for more than 40 years.

(AP Photo/Ivan Sekretarev)

Clinton makes tense visit to Pakistan

STEVEN LEE MYERS

© 2011 New York Times

ISLAMABAD — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton warned Friday that U.S.-Pakistani relations had reached "a turning point" and called on Pakistan's leaders to take urgent measures against Islamic extremists in the wake of the killing of Osama bin Laden. Clinton, the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit Pakistan since a Navy Seals team found bin Laden hiding in Abbottabad, did not get public pledges of cooperation from the Pakistanis. But she argued that it was in the interest of both countries to jointly pursue terrorists operating from havens in Pakistan.

"We will do our part," she said in remarks at the U.S. Embassy here, "and we look to the government of Pakistan to take decisive steps in the days ahead."



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton addresses a news conference with Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff at U. S. embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan on Friday, May 27, 2011. Clinton said that relations between the United States and Pakistan had reached a turning point after the killing of Osama bin Laden and Islamabad must make "decisive steps" in the days ahead to fight terrorism.

(AP Photo/B.K.Bangash)

Clinton was joined by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Adm. Mike Mullen, who traveled to Pakistan separately. The carefully orchestrated diplomatic encounter was intended both to cajole

the Pakistanis and to reassure them of political support at a time when Congress has threatened to cut economic and security aid.

Continued on page 2

ELLEN BARRY

© 2011 New York Times

MOSCOW — President Dmitry A. Medvedev on Friday offered to leverage Russia's relationships in Libya to try to persuade Moammar Gadhafi to leave power, an act of high-wire diplomacy that for the first time casts Russia as a central player in events unfolding in North Africa.

Medvedev's announcement, which came a day after a 90-minute bilateral meeting with President Barack Obama in France represents a pronounced shift in Russia's tone on Libya. Russia's criticism of NATO attacks had become increasingly tough over the past few months, reviving a longstanding critique of U.S. unilateralism that had quieted since Obama took office.

By attaching Russia's prestige to the effort, Medvedev is taking a gamble.

Continued on page 2

Clinton

Continued from Front Page

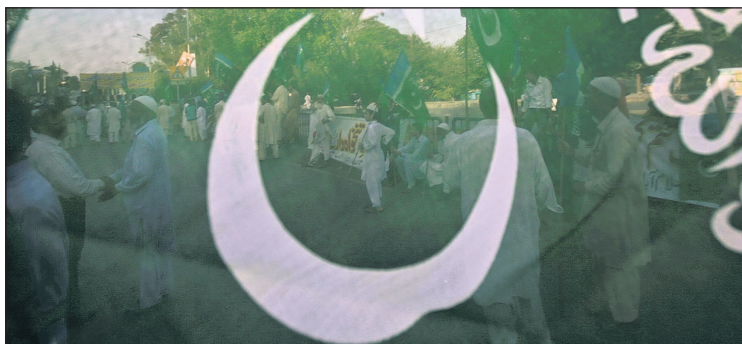
Pakistan has received \$20 billion in U.S. aid since 2001. The Pakistanis promised "some very specific actions" in the near future to show their commitment to fighting terrorism, Clinton said in her public remarks, without elaborating. A senior official traveling with her later, speaking only on condition of anonymity, following diplomatic protocol, said the actions included "specific operations" against individuals. The official said that for security reasons, their names could not be disclosed in advance and might never be made public. It remains to be seen whether the meetings eased the tensions and suspicions that have haunted relations with Pakistan so badly that U.S. officials dared not notify its leaders in advance of the raid against bin Laden. Many people in Pakistan see that raid less as a victory in fighting al-Qaida than as an affront to

the country's sovereignty and pride.

"They had no idea we could or we would do what we did," said another senior administration official traveling on Clinton's airplane. "That has changed their perspective in

they met at the presidential palace with President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani and the army chief, Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani.

In brief remarks directed to Zardari, Clinton said the



Supporters of the Pakistani religious party Jamaat-e-Islami, seen through their party's flag, during an anti-American rally in Islamabad, Pakistan, Friday, May 27, 2011. Visiting U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said that relations between the United States and Pakistan had reached a turning point after the killing of Osama bin Laden and Islamabad must take "decisive steps" in the days ahead to fight terrorism.

(AP Photo/Muhammed Muheisen)

ways that we're still evaluating, and they're still trying to come to grips with."

Friday's meetings did not appear to go well at first. Clinton and Mullen appeared awkward and unsmiling when

Obama administration recognized "the sacrifice that is made every single day by the men and women of your military and the citizens of your country," according to a video of that initial encounter. □

Gadhafi

Continued from Front Page

If Gadhafi could be persuaded to leave, Russia would win international plaudits but would also bear some responsibility for guaranteeing his safety. If he could not, Medvedev might find it more difficult to keep his distance from the military campaign, which is not popular in Russia. But for Russia, all those risks may be mitigated by the symbolism of the moment, when it is called on to defuse a violent standoff on behalf of world powers.

"Russia in the post-Soviet era has all these ideas about its influence and consequence in the world, and it is very sad for Russian politicians if it does not exist," said Dmitry Oreshkin, an analyst with the Mercator Group, a Moscow-based think tank.

"In this case, it seems like it exists. This is a reason to feel strong and respected."

Mikhail V. Margelov, Rus-

sia's special envoy to the Middle East and Africa, said he had been ordered to fly to Benghazi, the rebel stronghold, to conduct negotiations with the Libyan opposition, with an eye to assessing their vision of a post-Gadhafi government. He has mentioned Qatar and Saudi Arabia as countries that might possibly offer Gadhafi asylum, and said Group of Eight allies have proposed a variety of scenarios for his future, "from a quiet life as a simple bedouin in the Libyan desert, to the fate of Milosevic in the Hague."

Russia is in a unique position to negotiate, he said, because "Russian soldiers have never fought against African countries and against the African people."

Margelov added: "We have preserved our embassy in Tripoli, and have preserved contacts with people in Gadhafi's circle."

And we are developing our contacts with the Libyan rebels. □



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Texas governor hints at a White House run



Texas Gov. Rick Perry speaking before ceremonially signing a bill in Austin, Texas. Perry says he'll consider seeking the Republican nomination for president. Perry reversed course Friday, May 27, 2011 after saying for months he wasn't interested in running for the White House. He said he will decide whether to enter the race after the Texas Legislature adjourns Monday.

(AP Photo/Harry Cabluck,)

JAMES C. McKINLEY Jr
© 2011 New York Times
HOUSTON – The ritual of reporters asking Gov. Rick Perry if he is running for president and getting a firm no has become so entrenched in Texas that jaws dropped Friday afternoon when Perry abruptly changed his tune – slightly – and hinted that he might run after all. Asked at a bill signing if he would think about a presiden-

tial run after Memorial Day, Perry, a staunch conservative and Tea Party favorite, said without a hint of irony: "Yes, sir. I'm going to think about it." Then a couple of beats later, he smiled and added, "But I think about a lot of things." For more than two years, Perry has insisted he has no interest in going to Washington, even as he has been raising his national profile and laying the groundwork for a possible

campaign with strong support from the right wing of the Republican Party. He embraced the Tea Party movement early on when others dismissed it. As the chairman of the Republican Governors Association, he has championed states' rights, bashed President Barack Obama and written a book

asserting the federal government had overstepped its bounds on nearly every issue. At home, he made it a priority to pass several bills this session appealing to conservatives, among them an anti-abortion bill requiring women who are considering abortions to have sonograms and a measure aimed at preventing cit-

ies from becoming sanctuaries for illegal immigrants. Facing a huge budget shortfall this year, he also took a hard line against raising taxes or tapping the state's flush reserves. Instead he pushed an austere budget through the Legislature that cuts \$15 billion in spending, mostly from schools and health care. □





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A year of conspicuous consumption and charity for mayor

MICHAEL BARBARO

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — He gave away a Jeep Grand Cherokee that retailed for \$26,000. He forgave a personal loan worth at least \$500,000. He poured at least half a million dollars into a trust fund for his ex-wife. And he cast off a set of unwanted cabinets valued at more than \$40,000.

Even by the stratospheric standards of New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, 2010 represented a year of conspicuous consumption and charity, according to tax documents and disclosure reports that were revealed in a heavily edited form Friday.

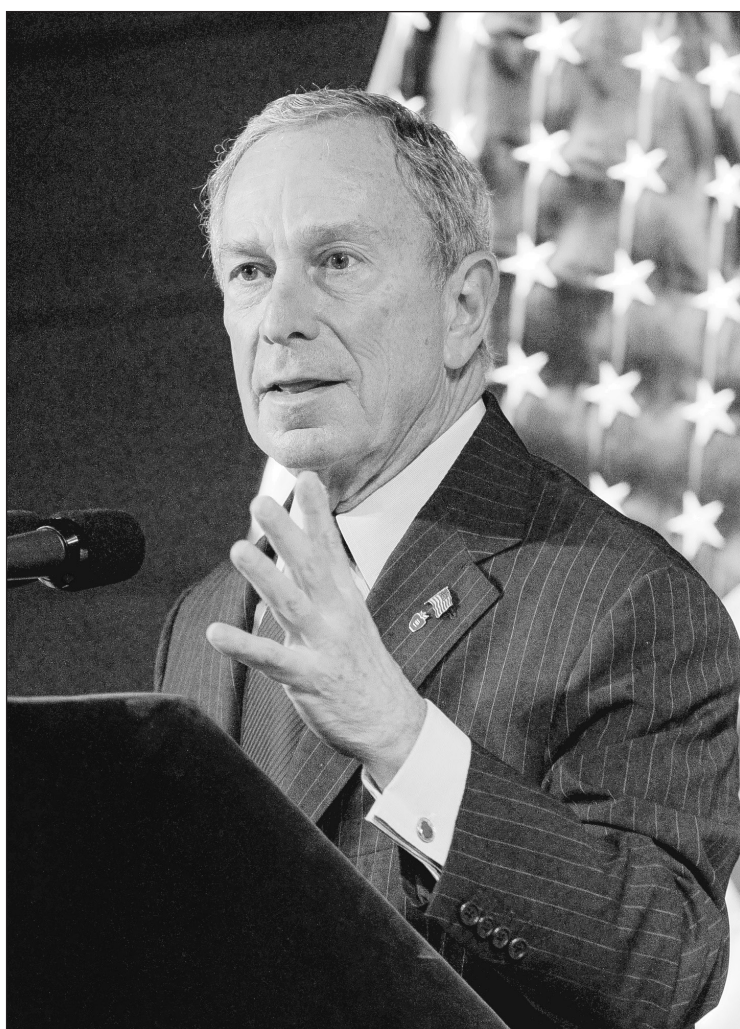
Bloomberg, whose fortune is estimated at about \$18 billion, has never exactly slumped it — not in the past few decades, anyway: He owns seven homes, a fleet of private planes and a stable of thoroughbred horses (not to mention an exceedingly profitable media company that bears his name).

But the documents suggested that as the stock market rebounded from recessionary lows last year, so did the mayor's personal spending.

Bloomberg, who has long subsidized the lifestyle of his family members, children and ex-flames, set up three new trusts for those close to him, not including the fund for Susan Bloomberg, whom he divorced in 1993. (Aides refused to identify the recipients.)

And, in a sign of flush times, he ratcheted up the amount he pays for his household staff. The documents show that his Social Security taxes on those wages totaled at least \$100,000 last year, up from at least \$60,000 in 2009.

Bloomberg, 69, paid at least \$1.5 million in city, state and federal taxes, the documents



New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg delivers his speech in New York's Cooper Union.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

show, a figure all but certain to be a fraction of his entire bill.

As in past years, however, just how much he paid — and earned — is unknowable because his staff discloses a heavily redacted version of his tax forms, which were shared with reporters for about 2 1/2 hours at the offices of the mayor's accountant in Manhattan. (Reporters were barred from taking copies with them.)

The documents display his income and losses not as dollar amounts but as a dollar range represented by letters: A (\$1,000 to \$5,000) to G (\$500,000 to the moon).

Stu Loeser, a spokesman for the mayor, said that Bloomberg refused to release his unedited tax documents because he fears disclosing corporate

secrets to his competitors, although he did not elaborate on what those secrets might be. The president and vice president of the United States, by contrast, release a full, unpurged tax return to the media every year.

Once decoded, the alphabet soup of data showed that Bloomberg earned, at the very least, about \$4 million from investments in 2010.

As always, his tax returns were filled with tantalizing glimpses into the world of a multibillionaire. They reveal that horses he owns won two equestrian competitions, earning up to \$98,000 in prize money, and that the mayor has found novel ways to profit from his daughter Georgina's career as a horse show jumper. Three of Georgina Bloomberg's fellow riders spent at least \$7,000 renting space at the mayor's various estates, and an unnamed individual paid between \$5,000 and \$44,000 to lease a horse that he owns.

He earned a small tax deduction for donating a 1996 Grand Cherokee to the Red Cross. Bloomberg had bought the car for his older daughter, Emma, as a high school graduation present, and the family had held on to it for 14 years, logging 95,728 miles and "driving the car into the ground," Loeser said.

The mayor told his alma mater, Johns Hopkins University, that it did not need to repay a large personal loan from him, effectively turning it into a donation, according to the documents.

But perhaps the mayor's most intriguing charitable gift was the set of cabinets — a lacquered unit that was purchased for the headquarters of his charitable foundation, on the Upper East Side.

According to a person who had been briefed on the matter, the cabinets had already been purchased and installed inside the foundation, when a case of buyer's remorse (or clashing color schemes) set in. □

Staff says to reject U2 guitarist's proposal

NOAKI SCHWARTZ

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Officials for the California state agency that oversees coastal development has for a second time recommended denying a controversial development proposal led by U2 guitarist The Edge for a cluster of mansions overlooking Malibu.

California Coastal Commission staff on Friday recommended that the board reject the project's application at its June meeting. In February, officials made the same recommendation before the item was pulled from the agenda at the request of the musician and his partners. At the time, project manager Jim Vanden Berg expressed surprise but said he believed they could work with staff to "clarify misunderstandings."

The proposal involving the musician, whose real name is David Evans, includes five multilevel homes ranging up to 12,785 square feet (1,188 square meters) to be built 156 acres in the Santa Monica

Mountains. Project designers have said the homes will be Gold LEED Certified and the guitarist has said the mansions will be some of the most environmentally sensitive in the world.

Opponents of the project, including the National Park Service, however, have argued that the project will have considerable biological and visual impacts in such sensitive habitat. The musician and his partners recently appealed the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, which had opposed the project on these grounds, after giving the agency more than \$1 million toward funding and other services.

A major sticking point for Coastal Commission staff, which suggested building fewer homes on the site, is the belief that the entire development proposal is being coordinated by The Edge. Instead of individual property owners proposing to build a single home on each of their lots, they believe the musician wants to build five mansions

on a single piece of property. In their report, staff argued that the current owners are all working together, coordinating the development which has a single project manager, single architect, single website and, until recently, a single agent that came before the commission. The report also pointed to the deal the owners collectively struck with the mountains conservancy.

Staff claims the original principals in the project, who were all connected to the musician, changed in 2010 after staff said they planned to show related ownership. The report said the applicants have declined to provide them with the various partnership agreements. The names of the property owners, which were submitted to the commission late last year, include the guitarist, as well as family, friends and business partners. Commission staff and representatives for the property owners could not immediately be reached for comment on Friday. □

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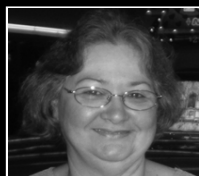


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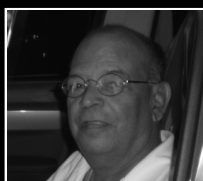
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Senate gadfly Rand Paul isn't shy about buzzing

J. STEINHAUER

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WASHINGTON — Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky did not come to this town to be quiet. In the first six months of the freshman Republican's tenure, he has designed his own budget (something, point of fact, that Senate Democrats have not accomplished), flirted with running for president and tormented Obama administration officials at a hearing over the fact that his toilets, hampered by federal water-use regulations, do not function properly. This week, Paul's parliamentary maneuvers nearly caused the USA Patriot Act to expire, and forced his hundreds of colleagues in both chambers



Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky), gives an interview after the Senate passed a vote to extend the Patriot Act, in Washington, May 26, 2011. Paul has distinguished himself, for the moment, as the legislator that seems to focus less on making laws and more on making a point.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

of Congress to adjust their amendments to that bill. In so doing, he managed to enrage Sen. Harry Reid, the

Democratic majority leader, who suggested on the floor of the Senate that Paul might not mind if terrorists get armed to the teeth. Nor did he thrill Sen. Mitch McConnell, the Republican minority leader and fellow Kentuckian, when he urged supporters to email McConnell's office with a message to get out of Paul's way.

A senatorial peacock with a rust-colored crown, Paul stands out as someone who, at least for now, seems to be here less to make laws than points. His libertarian-leaning amendments — one would have made it harder for counterterrorism investigators to obtain firearms records and another would relieve banks from their duty to report suspicious transactions — failed by wide margins, even among Republicans.

Oh well. In the legislative spirit of his father — and who knows, potential rival one day for the White House — Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, sometimes it's more about the eggs than

the omelets.

"I think there are victories and then there are symbolic victories," Rand Paul said in an interview Thursday.

"And I think we had a symbolic victory here in the sense that we did get to talk about some of the constitutional principles of search and seizure and the Fourth Amendment."

His role in the Senate, he said, is to "draw attention to some important questions that get shuffled aside," he said, specifically constitutional questions that are of central importance to his libertarian base. "There aren't many other people that seem to be asking" his sorts of questions.

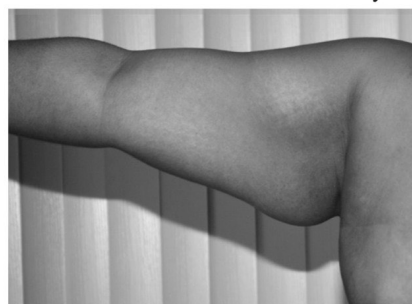
Paul appears to be modeling his style somewhat on people like Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., who once forced a Friday night procedural vote on an AIDS bill then failed to show up for it, or Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., who also often stymies legislation and sucks up time on his own doomed amendments. □



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Soul Beach Music Festival goesers love the BEACH

Juni Juliet to perform at MooMba Beach



HADICURARI - Popular musician Juni Juliet is coming to Aruba for a special performance as part of the Soul Beach Festival events that are holding the island in thrall.

On Monday, May 30, he is performing at MooMba Beach, where he will be singing and playing the piano from 7 to 10 pm.

The man from Curaçao is a virtual musical centipede, having been in show business since he was 7 years old. During that time he played the mandolin; a weekly Saturday show on television made him a local tv star.

With his four brothers Juni traveled throughout

South America, performing in television programs.

They were called 'Tipico Juliet'. By the time he was 11, Juni started singing, playing the guitar, bass guitar, piano, organ and percussion. In 1977 he went solo, attending various prestigious festivals and winning prizes.

Nowadays he is active as a singer and piano player, drawing large audiences wherever he goes.

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PALM BEACH -- The New York Jets Flight Crew Cheerleaders brought their team spirit to the Radisson Aruba

Resort Casino & Spa, as they posed for pictures and signed autographs for fans during the weekly Manager's Cocktail

Party.

The cheerleaders arrived here on JetBlue Airways, New York's hometown airline, from John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK) on the carrier's special edition New York Jets aircraft.

They were invited by the island of Aruba, the One Happy Island, with a scenic backdrop of pristine sandy beaches and clear turquoise waters, and their designated location for their calendar photo shoot, for the second year in a row.



The Flight Crew Cheerleaders are staying at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa from May 23 to May 28, where their schedule is filled with photo shoots on the property as well as at different picturesque locations throughout the island.

Pictured here fun images from

the Manager's Cocktail Party, hosted by resort General Manager Rob Smith and his department heads. The party also offered a raffle for prizes and surprises among them tickets to the Jets game and complimentary printed snapshot with the cheerleaders, presented in a handsome photo frame. □

Love at the Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort



EAGLE BEACH - On May 21st, 2011, Virginia Caroline Vance & Brett Curran Ruff vowed their love to one another at Eagle Beach. The lovebirds spent their first vacation together in Aruba, so when they set a date for their marriage the first place that came to mind was, without a doubt, "Aruba".

Having families all over the United States they thought it would give all a chance to witness their union and at the same time enjoy our beautiful Island. Virginia & Brett said "I do" at sunset and walked down the aisle as Mr. & Mrs. Ruff.

The festivities continued with a private Wedding Reception at Passions on the Beach; where they dined and danced the night away surrounded by 50 of their closest family members and friends. The couple expressed that planning their destination wedding was an amazing experience; fun and easy from start to finish.

They extend their gratitude to their Wedding Planner/Mrs. Lissy Lampe & Wedding Coordinator/Ms. Anne Maduro. Congratulations from all of us at the Amsterdam Manor Beach Resort, Ceremonies & Celebrations in Aruba & Aruba Today □



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Jennifer Hudson is here for the Soul Beach Music Festival 2011

ORANJESTAD – The 11th Annual Soul Beach Music Festival is in Aruba for the most electrifying music festival event of the year. The 2011 Soul Beach Music Festival kicks-off Memorial Day Weekend, in Aruba's sun-kissed paradise, with five-days of power-packed events. Join Soul Music Lovers from around the world and take part in amped-up nightclubs, sizzling beach parties, music and comedy concerts. The 11th Anniversary of the Soul Beach Music Festival will be more spectacular than ever!!!! "This album is a new introduction to me," says Jennifer Hudson. "It's the feeling of a journey, rediscovering myself and getting to know myself all over again."

SBMF Schedule

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Westin Hotel Poolside (Palm Beach)

SOUL BEACH DAYTIME EVENT*

BEACH PARTY

10am - 3pm

MooMba Beach (Palm Beach)

*NBA Viewing Parties at Buster's Sports Bar & Grill (Palm Beach)

MAIN STAGE CONCERT

7pm - 11pm

Joe Laveist Stadium (San Nicholas)

Hosted by: MARK CURRY

HEADS OF STATE (Bobby Brown, Ralph

Tresvant & Johnny Gill)

CHRISSETTE MICHELE

BASIC 1

NIGHTCLUB PARTIES

11pm - 3am

Nikky Beach Club (Oranjestad)

Featuring DJ "Frank Ski"

SUNDAY, MAY 29TH

SOUL BEACH DAYTIME EVENT*

BEACH PARTY

10am - 3pm

MooMba Beach (Palm Beach)

*NBA Viewing Parties at Buster's Sports Bar & Grill (Palm Beach)

MAIN STAGE CONCERT

7pm - 11pm

Joe Laveist Stadium (San Nicholas)

Hosted by: MARK CURRY

JENNIFER HUDSON

MUHSINAH (BLACKPLANET.COM WINNER)

TSUNAMI

NIGHTCLUB PARTIES

11pm - 3am

Nikky Beach Club (Oranjestad)

Featuring DJ "Frank Ski"

NO CAMERAS ALLOWED

Ticket Outlets: Dragon CD & Electronics – San Nicholas, Mambo Jambo: Oranjestad

MooMba Beach: Palm Beach, Nikky Beach Club, Oranjestad, SETAR - Airport, SETAR - Palm Beach, SETAR - San Nicolas, SETAR - Santa Cruz, SETAR - Seroe Blanco, SETAR - Yrausquinplein, Valero – Boulevard, Valero – Essoville, Valero – Palm Beach, Valero - Ponton, Valero - Santa Cruz, DePalm Tours Desks at Major Hotels



Hudson's new record, *I REMEMBER ME*, is a remarkable step forward for one of the biggest and most talked-about stars to emerge in recent years. It's the follow-up to 2008's Grammy-winning, gold-certified *JENNIFER HUDSON*, the debut release from an artist who had already conquered the worlds of television (with her success on *American Idol*) and movies (though her triumphant, Academy Award-winning performance in *Dreamgirls*). "The first album was all about finding out who I am, for me and for the listeners," she says. "This time, I've been able to be far more involved. We brought it up a notch and approached the album with a definite direction. I'm really proud that I could not be more content with it, or feel more present in it." The songs on *I REMEMBER ME* were written and produced by an all-star line-up of the biggest talents in music today, including R. Kelly (who is behind the album's first single, the hit "Where You At"), Alicia Keys, Ne-Yo, Polow da Don, and Salaam Remi. Harvey Mason, who has worked with singers from Aretha Franklin to Justin Timberlake to Whitney Houston, produced Hudson's vocals

throughout. The album producers are the legendary Clive Davis and Larry Jackson. "This album really captures Jennifer's amazing signature sound doing material that's totally worthy of her," says Davis, Chief Creative Officer of Sony Music Entertainment. "It's all very special and I just know it will continue to resonate for many years to come." "I woke up one morning and I just started writing," she says. "I feel like in 29 years I've led four different lives, and the me today versus the me from ten years ago, I can't even recognize that person. The only way to identify myself is from my hands, my familiar face—sometimes that's the only reminder I have of my own identity and who I used to be. So I took this paragraph that I wrote, and I thought that the only person who could help me finish this song was Ryan Tedder." "This diary entry was about Jennifer looking in a mirror and seeing her reflection," says Tedder, the producer of smash hits by the likes of Beyonce, Kelly Clarkson, and Leona Lewis. "The inspirational twist was that despite the tragedies, she still remembered who she was, and the one thing no one could take from her was a

lifetime of memories and the love she holds for her family." Echoes of Hudson's own history appear elsewhere on *I REMEMBER ME*. "I come from a big singing background in my family," she says. "We all grew up in the choir, and that's really where it kicked off. I knew at the age of 7 what I wanted to do—that's when I started going after that dream, and I never looked back." The Chicago-born and -based singer maintains that she needs to retain that connection to her gospel roots. "I have to have an inspirational song on my album," she says, "and not a watered-down one—not one where you just smack Jesus' name in the middle of an R&B song, I can't deal with that!" Hudson's debut album concluded with a rendition of "Jesus Promised Me a Home Over There," and that same slot on *I REMEMBER ME* is also held by a spiritual number, though this one comes from an unlikely source. Last year, Hudson performed at the farewell concert by superstar country duo Brooks and Dunn. They asked her to sing a 2005 hit of theirs titled "Believe." Though she wasn't initially sure why they made this selection, she says that she "fell in love with the song that night—I had to have it on the album." Produced by Harvey Mason, "Believe" ends the album on a soaring, emotional peak. The song "Still Here" also offers a connection to Hudson's personal history. Written by Songwriters Hall of Famer Diane Warren, the lyrics are a moving tribute to the singer's family. "I will never forget how you touched my life," Hudson sings. "I still see you, I still feel you/ And we'll never be apart." Not that everything on *I REMEMBER ME* is such serious business. The three tracks co-produced by Alicia Keys all have an old-school funk/disco flavor ("kind of Chaka Khan-influenced, and brought up to date," says Hudson). The song "Angel," says the singer, "has that kick in it—it's like the school band comes drilling down the aisle, with Jennifer singing at the front of it." □

Aruhiba, The 1 and Only Homemade Aruban Cigar



ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is



specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till

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Memorial Day ceremonies at Costa Linda

EAGLE BACH - On Memorial Day morning in 2004, four U.S. armed force veterans, their friends and families gathered on Eagle Beach at Costa Linda. The purpose of the gathering was to honor all those who had paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of their country. The simple ceremony has since become an annual event and has welcomed veterans from all nations to take part. We are pleased to say that since that first ceremony participation the event has increased significantly. From the beginning, they have attempted to keep the ceremony simple, solemn, and apolitical. "We've kept it solemn for obvious reasons, simple because of the ages of some of our vets who might find it difficult to stand in the sun too long, and apolitical because we were/are visitors in Aruba and understood that the raising of the American flag or the singing or playing of the Star Spangled Banner might offend some island residents. We soon realized that we had attracted veterans from other nations – Holland, Aruba, and South Africa to mention a few. So in fairness to all, we thought that large national banners and anthems would be inappropriate. However, we encourage participants to wear any uniforms or national symbols they wish to wear."

Veterans will gather on the beach at 10.00 a.m. on May 30th to form The Detail. We ask that viewers leave the area of the beach clear between The Detail and the surf.

There will be a call to attention followed by a reading of the poem "We Stand by the Sea" (anonymous) as a memorial wreath of flowers will be placed in the surf. There will then be a reading of a verse from The Fallen by R.L. Binyon followed by the playing of Taps and the presentation of arms by The Detail. The Detail will then be dismissed.

All those wishing to join us on Memorial Day, May 30th, are welcomed. We will convene on the beach at 10.00 am.

Regards from Costa Linda Vets, families and friends.

Don't get towed at the airport!

ORANJESTAD - Aruba Airport Authority NV (AAA), as operator of Aeropuerto Internacional Reina Beatrix, is responsible for guaranteeing safety and security of all its users, including passengers, visitors and employees.

To comply with its responsibilities and in accordance with local legislation, AAA is obliged to make sure no vehicles are left unattended in front of our Terminal Buildings. Vehicles left unattended are immediately towed and towing fees are for the expense of the vehicle's owner/driver.

Under no circumstances (this includes being in a hurry, answering an on-call request, delivering any documents or

meals, forgetting parking card or any other reason), are any Airport employees, Contractors, Suppliers or Visitors allowed to park at any location except the Employee Parking or the Public Parking.

Vehicles parked/ left unattended at any time at other than above mentioned two assigned locations on Airport premises will very likely be towed and only released after payment of the Towing Fee.

AAA also wishes to remind its users that according to our Towing Procedures, everyone who has a Towing claim (including a request for waiving of Towing fees) can send this only in writing to the AAA CEO. □

International School of Aruba

Fundraising for Beach Tennis & Beach Volleyball Courts

Today, Saturday, May 28, 2011 10:30 a.m.

ORANJESTAD - What does a beach tennis court look like from ten thousand feet? Come to the International School of Aruba on Saturday, May 28, at 10:30 a.m. and you can ask skydiver Jonathan Martins yourself!

To raise funds for the school's new beach tennis and beach volleyball courts, ISA's Parent Teacher Organization is sponsoring the island's first skydive raffle. The school's playing fields have been divided into one-meter squares, and each square has been randomly assigned to a raffle ticket.

On Saturday morning, Jonathan—an instructor at Sky-

dive Aruba—will jump from a plane high above the island and guide his parachute to earth.

If his left foot lands in (or near) your square, you could win up to two thousand five hundred florins!

Only three thousand tickets have been printed and they're selling fast. Ask your favorite ISA student how you can join in the raffle, or call the school at 583-5040.

Come to ISA's beautiful Wayaca campus on Saturday, May 28, watch the dive, and enjoy live music from the Roots band.

Food and beverages available from 10:30 until noon. The International School of Aruba was founded in 1929. Originally located in Seroe Colorado, the school moved to its new campus near Oranjestad in 2005.

ISA provides the island's only accredited English-language, college preparatory curriculum to students from pre-school to grade twelve. The ISA community draws families from thirty-six different countries, including Aruba, India, the Netherlands, the United States, and Venezuela. The International School of Aruba, Wayaca 238A, 583-5040, www.isaruba.com. □



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Arrest follows Serbia's uneven path to break with its past

STEVEN ERLANGER

© 2011 New York Times

BELGRADE, Serbia — The tall building that served as the headquarters for the late Slobodan Milosevic's political party, bombed by an American cruise missile in the 1999 Kosovo war, has been privatized and rebuilt, covered now in blue-green glass. Before 1990, it was home to the Communist Party Central Committee; now it houses offices, including Western banks, and a modish shopping center.

The building is a kind of metaphor for Serbia's steady move toward reintegration into Europe and the West, but also for its painful and incomplete transition.

The sale of the building was considered by many to be corrupt, a political gift to a crony of a former prime minister, Zoran Djindjic.

The arrest Thursday of the wanted war crimes suspect Ratko Mladic after 15 years of quiet protection and hiding, is also regarded as a mixed blessing. It is a major victory for Serbia's democratic president, Boris Tadic, and his supporters, who see it as vindication of moral values and the closing of another chapter of a bloody past.

Mladic's inevitable extradition to face charges of genocide is bound to jump-start Serbia's request to join the European Union. That could pay off politically for Tadic, who reorganized intelligence



Special police units patrol the streets near the Parliament in downtown Belgrade, Serbia, May 27, 2011. The arrest of the wanted war criminal Ratko Mladic after 15 years of hiding can be seen as a major victory for Serbia's democratic president, Boris Tadic, and his supporters.

(Andrew Testa/The New York Times)

gathering and deployed the police on a nationwide manhunt for Mladic, in an attempt to remove that barrier to membership.

But for many Serbs, who are struggling with a very weak economy and high joblessness rates of 20 percent, the arrest of Mladic is an ambivalent, even irrelevant moment for their near future.

European Union membership would be years away in any case, and Serbs have been watching the financial crises that have rocked the Union.

"We see that the Europeans don't want to pay for the Greek unemployed, let alone

for the Serb unemployed," said Aleksandar Mitic, chairman of a Belgrade research institute, the Center for Strategic Alternatives. Mitic says that Tadic will get a boost from the Mladic arrest and consequent steps by the European Union, but that they may not make a very big difference electorally with Serbs hit hard by an economic crisis and unhappy about further concessions to the United States and Europe. And while Serbia has moved closer to the West by satisfying the demands for retribution for Balkan war crimes, it remains apart on issues crucial to Europe: Bosnia and Koso-

vo, which prompted NATO's bombing of the Serbs.

In Kosovo, Serbia is firmly opposed to independence for a state that it legally considers a province of Serbia.

And in Bosnia, Serbia backs the Serbian entity within Bosnia, the Republika Srpska, to maintain its strong autonomy. These nationalist tensions lead some Western experts to worry that the Dayton Accords that ended the Bosnian war — in which Mladic was the Bosnian Serb commander — are being undermined.

Tadic has made some symbolic progress, especially on Kosovo. □

Mladic could be extradited as early this as Monday

Continued from Front Page

Instead the government dispatched the health minister, a former friend, who deemed him stable.

Serbian war crimes prosecutors argue that the defense was simply trying to delay the extradition, and the tribunal promises it is capable of dealing with any health problems. The U.N. Security Council on Thursday congratulated Serbian authorities on Mladic's arrest, which it called "a clear demonstration of cooperation" with the U.N. tribunal, and welcomed Serbia's intention to ensure his "swift transfer" to The Hague.

Expressing "deepest sympathy" for all those who lost loved ones in former Yugoslavia during the conflicts of the 1990s, council members said they share the hope that Mladic's transfer to the court "will help to bring the Western Balkans region closer to reconciliation and to their European perspective."

The Security Council agreed with the Serb government that the search for the tribunal's last fugitive, Goran Hadzic, a former leader of Serbs in Croatia, should remain "a key priority" for the government.

Mladic was in command of the Bosnian Serb army during the country's 1992-95 war, which left more than 100,000 people dead and drove another 1.8 million from their homes. Thousands of Muslims and Croats were slain, tortured or expelled in a campaign to purge the region of non-Serbs. Mladic's ruthlessness was legendary: "Burn their brains!" he once bellowed as his men pounded Sarajevo with artillery fire. So was his opinion of himself: He nicknamed himself "God," and kept goats which he was said to have named after Western leaders he despised.

He eluded the net of war crimes investigators for years after his 1995 indictment by the U.N. war crimes court on charges of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity — until going out into his garden for a pre-dawn walk. □

Roadside bomb in Lebanon wounds 6 UN peacekeepers

ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A roadside bomb ripped through a U.N. convoy carrying Italian peacekeepers in southern Lebanon on Friday, wounding six of them in the first such attack since 2008, officials said.

"It was an attack against UNIFIL," said Italian Gen.

Santi Bonfanti, second-in-command of the mission known as UNIFIL, ruling out that the blast was specifically aimed at Italians.

Bonfanti, speaking on Italian state TV, said that one soldier had undergone surgery while another was still in surgery. He said the other soldiers were in good condition.

The explosion struck as the peacekeepers' vehicles traveled south on the main highway in Sidon, leaving a crater in the road

and scattered debris from the charred U.N. vehicles. Police said the bomb contained up to 25 pounds (12 kilograms) of explosive material. Two civilians also were wounded.

The U.N. Security Council and Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon strongly condemned the attack.

The U.N. will work closely with Lebanese authorities "to have a full and swift investigation on the attack to bring the perpetrators to justice," Ban said in France, where he was attending the G-8 summit.

The council welcomed Lebanon's commitment to launch an investigation and punish those responsible.

Italian state TV said the blast was caused by a homemade bomb placed just behind the low concrete barrier lining the highway and that two vehicles in a four-veh-

icle convoy were struck.

"This is a despicable act that is clearly directed at undermining U.N. Security Council resolution 1701 and stability in the south," Singh said. He was referring to the resolution that ended the 34-day Hezbollah-Israel war in 2006, which killed more than 1,200 Lebanese and 160 Israelis.

The peacekeeping force is deployed in southern Lebanon to monitor the border with Israel.

The last bomb attack on peacekeepers was in January 2008, when a roadside bomb struck a U.N. vehicle traveling along the coastal highway south of Beirut, lightly wounding two peacekeepers.

The deadliest attack was in June 2007, when a bomb hit an armored personnel carrier near the Israeli border and killed six Spanish peacekeepers. □

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At a new protest in Cairo, Muslim Brotherhood is missing



Egyptian protesters wave national flags as they attend a rally in Tahrir square in Cairo, Egypt, Friday, May 27, 2011. Thousands of protesters poured into downtown Cairo's Tahrir Square Friday for what they called a "second revolution," striking a harsh tone against Egypt's military rulers, and saying "Egyptians' revolution is not over".

(AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
© 2011 New York Times

CAIRO — Tens of thousands
of mostly liberal protesters

again filled Tahrir Square on
Friday to press for an assort-
ment of demands in a demon-
stration billed as "The Revo-

lution Part II," but perhaps
most notable for the absence
of the Muslim Brotherhood.
The protesters called on the

military council now ruling
Egypt to end the practice of
sending civilians to military
trials, to expedite legal ac-
tion against former President
Hosni Mubarak and his asso-
ciates, and to start governing
with some civilian presiden-
tial council.

But the rally may have been
most significant as a display
of the liberal factions' strength
in Egyptian politics. It was the
first time since the Jan. 25 day
of protests that kicked off the
revolution that the Muslim
Brotherhood, Egypt's largest
and best-organized political
force, did not support a major
street protest.

In the emerging battle lines of
post-revolutionary Egyptian
politics, many liberal activists
and observers abroad say they
fear that the Brotherhood's
organizational strength will
give it an edge in the elections
for Parliament this fall, which
could, in turn, enable Islamists
to put their stamp on Egypt's
Constitution when the new
Parliament sets out a process
for revising it. "Constitution
First," declared a banner at
the center of the square Fri-
day, expressing the liberal
demand for the establishment
of rules protecting individual
freedoms and minority rights
before elections begin. □

G-8: Nations, banks to give \$40B for Arab Spring

GREG KELLER
JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press

DEAUVILLE, France (AP) — Rich countries
and international lenders are aiming to provide
\$40 billion in funding for Arab nations trying
to establish true democracies, officials said
at a Group of Eight summit. Officials didn't
fully detail the sources of the money, or how
it would be used, but the thrust was clearly to
underpin democracy in Egypt and Tunisia —
where huge public uprisings ousted autocratic
regimes this year — and put pressure on re-
pressive rulers in Syria and Libya. The overall
message from President Barack Obama and the
other G-8 leaders meeting in this Normandy
resort on Friday appeared to be warning auto-
cratic regimes in the Arab world that they will
be shut out of rich-country aid and investment,
while new democracies are encouraged to open

their economies. On war-torn Libya, European
leaders sought to wield carrot and stick. French
President Nicolas Sarkozy insisted NATO was
ratcheting up military pressure against Moam-
mar Gadhafi's embattled regime, just as Brit-
ish Prime Minister David Cameron said Libya
could get a cut of aid — if Gadhafi goes.

**"This support will initially be available to
Egypt and Tunisia, but will ultimately be
there for any country that embraces the
path to democracy and reform — and of
course that could include, for example,
Libya," he said.**

Tunisia's finance minister said Sarkozy floated
the \$40 billion figure at talks Friday, in which
the prime ministers of Tunisia and Egypt joined
the G-8 leaders to seek help after the uprisings
scared away tourists and investors. □

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1 FREE

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7-8pm. WIN CASH

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Saudis eye 'Arab Spring' with unease

NEIL MacFARQUHAR
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RIYADH, Saudi Arabia – Saudi Arabia is flexing its financial and diplomatic might across the Middle East in a wide-ranging bid to contain the tide of change, shield fellow monarchs from popular discontent and avert the overthrow of any more leaders struggling to calm turbulent republics.

From Egypt, where the Saudis dispensed \$4 billion in aid last week to shore up the ruling military council, to Yemen, where it is trying to ease out the president, to the kingdoms of Jordan and Morocco, which it has invited to join a union of Persian Gulf monarchies, Saudi Arabia is scrambling to forestall more radical change and block Iran's influence.

The kingdom is aggressively emphasizing the relative stability of monarchies, part of an effort to avert any dramatic shift from the authoritarian model, which would generate uncomfortable questions about the glacial pace of political and social change at home.

Saudi Arabia's proposal to include Jordan and Morocco in the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council – which authorized the Saudis to send in troops to quell a largely Shiite Muslim rebellion in the Sunni Muslim monarchy of Bahrain – is intended to create a kind of "Club of Kings." The idea is to signal Shiite Iran that the Sunni Arab monarchs will defend their interests, analysts said.

"We're sending a message that monarchies are not where this is happening," Prince Waleed bin Talal al-Saud, a businessman and high-profile member of the habitually reticent royal

family, told The New York Times' editorial board, referring to the unrest. "We are not trying to get our way by force, but to safeguard our interests." The range of the Saudi intervention is extraordinary as the unrest pushes Riyadh's hand to forge what some commentators, in Egypt and elsewhere, brand a "counter-revolution." Some Saudi and foreign analysts find the term too sweeping for the steps the Saudis have actually taken, though it appears unparalleled in the region and beyond as the kingdom reaches out to ally with non-Arab Muslim states as well.

"I am sure that the Saudis do not like this revolutionary wave – they were really scared," said Khalid Dakhil, a Saudi political analyst and columnist. "But they are realistic here."

In Egypt, where the revolution has already toppled a close Saudi ally in Hosni Mubarak, the Saudis are dispensing aid and mending ties in part to help head off a good showing by the Muslim Brotherhood in the upcoming parliamentary elections. The Saudis worry that an empowered Muslim Brotherhood could damage Saudi legitimacy by presenting a model of Islamic law different from the Wahhabi tradition of an absolute monarch. "If another model of Shariah says that you have to resist, this will create a deep difficulty," said Abdulaziz Algasim, a Saudi lawyer.

Saudi officials are also concerned that Egypt's foreign policy is shifting, with its outreach to the Islamist group Hamas and plans to restore ties with Iran.

The Saudi monarch, King Abdullah, also retains a per-



In this photo released by Saudi Press Agency, Shows King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, center, waves during the inauguration of the Princess Noura bint Abdulrahman University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia is flexing its financial and diplomatic might across the Middle East in a wide-ranging bid to contain the tide of change, shield fellow monarchs from popular discontent and avert the overthrow of any more leaders struggling to calm turbulent republics.

(AP Photo/HO)

sonal interest in protecting Mubarak, analysts believe.

The Arab Spring began to unravel an alliance of so-called moderate Arab states, led by Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which were willing to work closely with the United States and promote peace with Israel. American support for the Arab uprisings also strained relations, prompting Saudi Arabia to split from Washington on some issues while questioning its longstanding reliance on the United States to protect its interests.

The strained Saudi posture toward Washington was outlined in a recent opinion piece by Nawaf Obaid, a Saudi ana-

lyst, in The Washington Post that suggested Riyadh was ready to go it alone because the United States had become an "unreliable partner." But that seems at least partly a display of Saudi pique, since the oil-for-protection exchange that has defined relations between the two for the past six decades is unlikely to be replaced soon. Saudi Arabia is negotiating to buy \$60 billion in advanced American weapons, and President Barack Obama, in his speech last week demanding that Middle Eastern autocrats bow to popular demands for democracy, noticeably did not mention Saudi Arabia. □

Report details last minutes of Air France jet

NICOLA CLARK

© 2011 New York Times

PARIS – The captain of the Air France jet that crashed in the Atlantic two years ago was in the cockpit, although not at the controls, as the crew struggled to recover from a high-altitude stall, according to an initial chronology of the flight's final moments published Friday by French investigators.

Based on roughly 1,300 pieces of newly recovered information, including the pilots' final conversations, the report confirmed suspicions that a loss of consistent speed readings, probably a result of icing of the plane's airspeed sensors, set off the chain of events that brought down Flight 447 en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris.

But the investigators said it was too early to say whether pilot error or technical malfunctions had caused the Airbus A330-200 to plummet 38,000 feet in 3 1/2 minutes, slamming into the ocean surface at a vertical speed of nearly 11,000 feet per minute. "We are still trying to interpret this information in order to have a better understanding of what happened," said Jean-Paul Troadec, the director of the Bureau of Investigations and Analyses, or BEA, in France. "That work has just begun."

A more comprehensive report will be issued by the end of July, Troadec said.

All 228 people aboard were killed when the plane went down in mid-2009. Airbus and Air France are facing accusations of involuntary manslaughter. □

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Havana's sphere of influence

GIA KOURLAS

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In Cuba, where dancers — especially male ones — seem to grow like weeds, ballet is a noble profession.

"There every taxi driver knows the names of the dancers," Mikhail Baryshnikov said in a recent interview. "This is unheard of. Try it in New York."

But often at the National Ballet of Cuba, led by the indomitable Alicia Alonso, the soil isn't rich enough to keep them there.

"Most Cubans leave because we want to do something different," Reyneris Reyes said. Now a principal with the Miami City Ballet, he trained at the National Ballet School in Havana and was a member of the national company.

"Not 'Sleeping Beauty' or 'Don Q' or 'Giselle' all the time," he said.

In Miami, Reyes performs ballets by George Balanchine, Twyla Tharp and Jerome Robbins.

"It's wonderful to have all these styles, and I love it here," he continued. "And it's kind of like Cuba. The weather is hot."

Beyond political and economic reasons, for the steady



Cuban ballet dancer Lorna Feijoo of Boston Ballet, in the premiere of American Ballet Theater's "Majisimo," at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, May 16, 2011. Beyond political and economic reasons, for the steady stream of dancers who leave their homeland, ballet in Cuba is limiting.

stream of dancers who leave their homeland — many defect while others get permission to work abroad — ballet in Cuba is limiting, with a focus on war-horse-heavy repertory. Excerpts from several of these classics will be on display at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, when the National Ballet

of Cuba appears there starting June 8.

What is notable is how easily Cuban dancers, curious for a taste of ballet beyond the classics, find work in North American and European companies. This speaks to the rigorous training at the National Ballet School, which is directed

(Andrea Mohin/The New York Times)

by Ramona de Saa. What is it about Cuban schooling that makes its dancers malleable enough to assimilate into so many companies far from home? For its opening-night gala this month, American Ballet Theater illustrated this point in "Majisimo," a work featuring a nearly all-

Cuban cast. In the United States, alone Cuban dancers are members of Boston Ballet, Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet and San Francisco Ballet, as well as smaller troupes like Cincinnati Ballet; BalletMet of Columbus, Ohio; Sarasota Ballet in Florida; and other companies. Aspiring dancers start around the age of 10 in Cuba, late by U.S. standards.

Carlos Miguel Guerra, now a principal at Miami City Ballet, said: "They are very picky about who they accept. It's not like here; if you have the money and want to, you can send a little fat boy to school." Teachers throughout Cuba follow the same training methodology, which Lorna Feijoo, now a principal at Boston Ballet, stressed as being particularly significant.

"It's very important not to confuse the kids," she said. "After, when you know everything, that's when you can do whatever you want."

While she and her husband, Nelson Madrigal, also a principal dancer at Boston Ballet, are free to travel to Cuba, she regrets not having opportunities to perform there. □

Medicare and “Mediscares”



PAUL KRUGMAN

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Yes, Paul Ryan, the chairman of the House Budget Committee, is a sore loser. Why do you ask?

To be sure, Ryan had reason to be upset after Tuesday’s special election in New York’s 26th Congressional District. It’s a very conservative district, so much so that last year the Republican candidate took 76 percent of the vote. Yet on Tuesday, Kathy Hochul, a Democrat, took the seat, with a campaign focused squarely on Ryan’s plan to dismantle Medicare and replace it with a voucher system.

How did Hochul pull off this upset? The Wisconsin congressman blamed Democrats’ willingness to “shamelessly distort and demagogue the issue, trying to scare seniors to win an election,” and he predicted that by November of next year “the American people are going to know they’ve been lied to.”

You can understand Ryan’s bitterness. He has, after all, experienced quite a come-down over the course of the past seven weeks. Until his Medicare plan was rolled out in early April he had spent months bathing in warm approbation from many pundits, who had decided to anoint him as an icon of fiscal responsibility. And the plan itself received rapturous praise in the first couple of days after its release.

Then people who actually know how to read a budget proposal started looking at the plan. And that’s when everything started to fall apart.

Ryan may claim – and he may even believe – that he’s facing a backlash because his opponents are lying about his proposals. But the reality is that the Ryan plan is turning into a political disaster for Republicans, not because the plan’s

critics are lying about it, but because they’re describing it accurately.

Take, for example, the statement that the Ryan plan would end Medicare as we know it. This may have Republicans screaming “Mediscare!” but it’s the absolute truth: The plan would replace our current system, in which the government pays major health costs, with a voucher system, in which seniors would, in effect, be handed a coupon and told to go find private coverage.

The new program might still be called Medicare – hey, we could replace government coverage of major expenses with an allowance of two free aspirins a day, and still call it “Medicare” – but it wouldn’t be the same program. And if the cost estimates of the Congressional Budget Office are at all right, the inadequate size of the vouchers – which by 2030 would cover only about a third of seniors’ health costs – would leave many if not most older Americans unable to afford essential care.

If anyone is lying here, it’s Ryan himself, who has claimed that his plan would give seniors the same kind of coverage that members of Congress receive – an assertion that is completely false.

And, by the way, the claim that the plan would keep Medicare as we know it intact for Americans currently 55 or older is highly dubious. True, that’s what the plan promises, but if you think about the political dynamics that would emerge once Americans born a year or two too late realize how much better a deal slightly older Americans are getting, you realize that this is a promise unlikely to be fulfilled. Still, are Democrats doing a bad thing by telling the truth about the Ryan plan? “If you demagogue entitlement reform,” says Ryan, “you’re hastening a debt crisis; you’re bringing about Medicare’s collapse.” Maybe he should have a word with his colleagues who greeted the modest, realistic cost control efforts in the Affordable Care Act with cries of “death panels.” □



U.S. survival guide



DAVID BROOKS

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Sometime this summer, the Democrats and the Republicans will go toe-to-toe over whether to raise the debt ceiling. At the height of the confrontation, President Barack Obama may well address the country and say that even though he has offered the Republicans more than \$1 trillion in spending cuts (unspecified), the Republicans have not been willing to compromise on a deal. He will then announce that even without an agreement the U.S. will still have enough money to continue payments to its creditors. Unfortunately, he will go on, the government will not have enough money to continue with many other programs. Federal agencies will send out letters advising parents that because of the deadlock in Congress, student loans will be suspended. Other letters will advise seniors to make arrangements with banks for credit lines until their Social

Security checks can resume. National panic will ensue.

A few weeks ago, the Republicans might have been able to withstand this. Then it was possible to argue that Americans are so fed up with runaway spending and unsustainable debt that they would support a party brave enough to put the country on a sound fiscal footing. After the Republican defeat in New York’s 26th Congressional District, it is harder to argue that. After these results, 2012 looks more like a regular election – whichever party can be accused of cutting entitlements will get pummeled.

Already many consultants are telling Republicans to drop austerity and go back on offense: Spend 2012 accusing the Democrats of sponsoring death panels. The Democrats will spend 2012 accusing Republicans of ending Medicare. Whichever party demagogues best wins. But, over the past few days, I’ve spoken with a number of Republicans – in Congress and elsewhere – who don’t want to do that. They fervently believe the country is in peril. They want to find a way to reduce the debt without committing political suicide.

Doing that is a two-step process. First, Republicans have to make a grand offer on raising the debt ceiling. This offer should include a bipartisan commitment to reduce the

growth of Medicare spending. Republicans need Democratic fingerprints on a plan to restrain entitlements. In exchange, Republicans should offer to raise tax revenues on the rich. They should get rid of the interest deductions on mortgages over \$500,000 and on second homes. They should close corporate loopholes and cap the health insurance deduction. They should offer a plan that follows the outline of the Simpson-Bowles report and what the “Gang of Five” in the Senate is working on. (Sen. Mark Kirk has a proposal roughly on this latter point.) Democrats may not agree to this offer. Since the election, Democrats have gone into the fiscal fetal position, hoping to offend no one while Republicans catch all the flak. This week, Senate Democrats voted on four separate budget proposals and not a single Democrat voted for a single one. Even Obama’s budget received zero votes. The Democrats don’t want to be on record for any governing choice that might be painful.

Moreover, Obama may use this occasion to pummel the Republicans mercilessly on Medicare, no matter what the consequences for the country. But if the Republicans made an offer that included revenue increases, they would at least show they are willing to compromise to prevent a national catastrophe. □

Sweltering Heat to meet Mavericks in Finals

Miami Heat forward LeBron James (6) reacts as Miami wins Game 5 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals against the Chicago Bulls on Thursday, May 26, 2011, in Chicago. At left is Chicago's Derrick Rose. Miami won 83-80 and advanced to the NBA Finals

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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Saturday, May 28, 2011

Keselowski on pole for Charlotte



Brad Keselowski holds up the trophy in victory lane after winning the pole position for Sunday's NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Coca-Cola 600 auto race in Concord, N.C., Thursday, May 26, 2011, with a speed of 192.089 mph.

Associated Press

MIKE CRANSTON

AP Sports Writer

CONCORD, North Carolina (AP) — Brad Keselowski earned pole Thursday for NASCAR's longest race at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Keselowski took advantage of cooler track conditions later in qualifying to earn his second career Sprint Cup pole. A.J. Allmendinger will join him on the front row for Sunday night's Coca-Cola 600.

Carl Edwards, who won last week's All-Star race then crashed his car in a celebration mishap in the grass, qualified third in his new car. Denny Hamlin, Jeff Burton and Jimmie Johnson rounded out the top six. □

WOES- NIACKI

No. 1 Wozniacki loses in French Open's 3rd round

Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark wipes her face in her match against Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia in her third round match of the French Open tennis tournament at Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Friday May 27, 2011. Hantuchova won in two sets 6-1, 6-3.

Associated Press
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Garcia, Palmer share lead at Byron Nelson Championship

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**

AP Sports Writer IRVING, Texas (AP)— Sergio Garcia and Ryan Palmer took a share of the lead at 8-under 132 after a windy second round at the Byron Nelson Championship.

Garcia posted his second consecutive 4-under 66, just days after withdrawing from a British Open qualifier and passing up a practice round at the TPC Four Seasons course outside Dallas because of an infected fingernail on his left hand.

After a bogey on the 523-yard par-4 third hole when his approach flew over the green, the Spanish golfer birdied three of the next four holes and was bogey-free the rest of his round.

Despite playing in windy conditions, with gusts blowing at up to 36 mph (58 kph), he hit 11 of 14 fairways and 14 of 18 greens.

“You would be happy with those stats on a day with not much wind,” Garcia said.

The 31-year-old also shot out of a bunker to 7 feet to save par at No. 14, then had a 45-foot chip-in birdie on the 15th.

Playing into the wind the rest of the way, he had pars on the last three holes. Garcia, the 2004 Byron Nelson champion, hasn’t won a tournament since 2008.

“When I’m feeling good, even in windy conditions like today, I feel like I can control the ball flight and I can hit some good, solid shots,” Garcia said. “It’s going to be tough out there. I just need to make sure that I stay positive and just try to trust myself as much as I can.”

Palmer, who shot a 67, had made the cut only once in seven previous appearances at the event, shooting nine consecutive rounds over par before this week when caddie James Edmondson is calling his shots.

“He’s never played good here and we finally decided that I was going to take over and just lead the horse around the ranch,” Edmondson said.

Palmer opened with a 65 on Thursday and had only one bogey in the second round when missed the green with his approach on the 15th and two-putted from 17 feet.

He had pars the rest of the way, using a



Sergio Garcia of Spain, hits out of a bunker on the 18th hole during the second round of the Byron Nelson Championship golf tournament Friday, May 27, 2011, in Irving, Texas.

Associated Press

5-wood for the second consecutive day at No. 18, where he had a 25-foot birdie attempt just roll by the cup.

“I keep surprising myself how calm I am when it’s that way. ... This is a golf course that I’ve struggled on so it’s nice to not to think about it, just get up and hit the shot, and if I don’t hit the shots it’s on me,” Palmer said. “So it’s nice to be free-swinging like that.”

Tim Petrovic (66) and Scott Piercy (69) were three strokes back at 5 under. Nick Watney (68), Joe Ogilvie (70) and Chad

Collins (69) followed at 4 under. First-round leader Jeff Overton followed his opening 64 with a 74 that including consecutive bogeys to end his round.

Seventy-four players made the cut at 3 over, including defending champion Jason Day of Australia (71).

For the second year in a row, amateur 17-year-old Jordan Spieth from Dallas made it past the second round. After his 2-under 68 Friday, he was in a group of six players at 3 under. □

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James, Wade lead charge as Heat eliminate Bulls

ANDREW SELIGMAN

AP Sports Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh joined to win an NBA championship and now they have their shot after the Miami Heat beat the Chicago Bulls 83-80 on Thursday to clinch their Eastern Conference finals series 4-1.

James scored 28 points, Wade added 21, and they led a furious rally in the final minutes. They scored eight points each during a game-ending 18-3 run as Miami wiped out a 12-point deficit.

Now, the Heat are headed back to the NBA finals for the first time since 2006, and by coincidence they will again be facing the Dallas Mavericks. Back then, with Wade leading the way, Miami beat Dallas to capture the championship. This time, it'll respective stars James and Dirk Nowitzki going for their first rings.

The Heat will host Game 1 on Tuesday. "There's no sense of relief right now," James said. "We've still got work to do. We'll look at this moment to-night, have a little bit of time

tomorrow to go over this moment, what we just accomplished. But we get ready for Dallas very soon. We don't take for granted this win and take for granted being Eastern Conference champions."

For Miami's Big Three, this was the plan from the moment they chose to get together in Florida before the season. The Heat had their difficulties along the way, but look at them now.

They just knocked off the team that won more games than any other, that boasted the league's MVP in Derrick Rose and which had sent expectations soaring around Chicago in a way not seen since Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen were racking up championships.

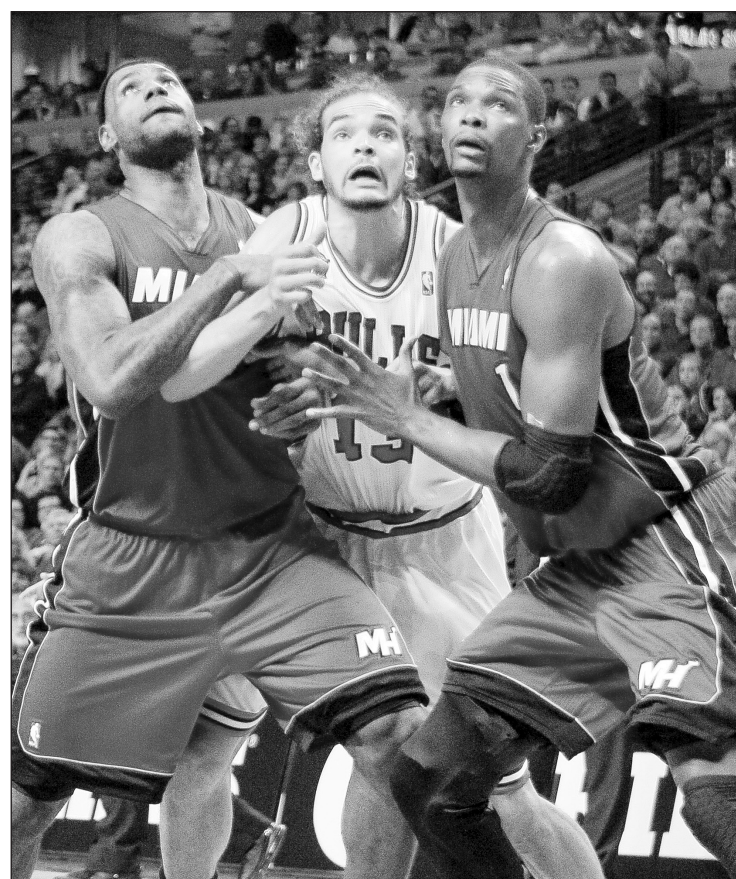
Rose led Chicago with 25 points but hit just 9 of 29 shots. He fouled Wade on a key four-point play and missed a tying free throw with 26.7 seconds left.

James had 11 rebounds and

six assists. Wade's late surge helped negate his nine turnovers. Bosh added 20 points and 10 rebounds as the Heat pulled out a dramatic win.

The Bulls looked like they were in good shape up 77-65 with about three minutes to go, but Wade started the deciding run with a runner and layup. A 3 by James pulled Miami within 77-72 with 2:07 left. Rose then scored on a spin move in the lane, but fouled Wade as he nailed a 3, resulting in a four-point play. Then, after a miss by Rose, James tied it at 79 with another 3 with 1:01 remaining, sending a loud groan through the arena.

James buried another jumper to put Miami ahead 81-79 with 29.5 seconds left. Rose immediately got fouled by James, but missed the second free throw after making the first. Kurt Thomas tipped the inbounds pass, but the Heat recovered, leading to two free throws for Bosh. □



Chicago Bulls center Joakim Noah (13) and Miami Heat forwards LeBron James, left, and Chris Bosh look for a rebound during the second quarter of Game 5 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals Thursday, May 26, 2011, in Chicago.

Associated Press

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 late show: 11:00
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 matinee: 1:00 - 3:45
 late show: 12:00
 PG-13

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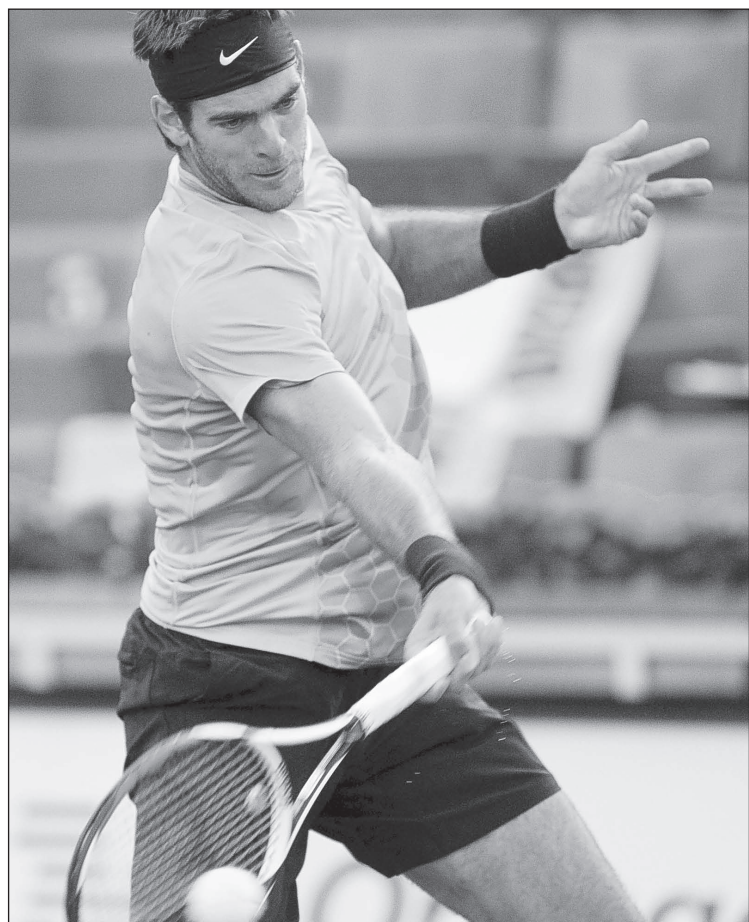
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Top-ranked Wozniacki eliminated from French Open



Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro returns the ball to Serbia's Novak Djokovic during their third round match of the French Open tennis tournament, at the Roland Garros stadium in Paris, Friday, May 27, 2011.

Associated Press

CHRIS LEHOURITES

AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki's quest for a first major title was derailed Friday when she was beaten by Daniela Hantuchova 6-1, 6-3 in the third round of the French Open.

The Dane has been No. 1 in the WTA rankings for almost the entire season but never really challenged her Slovak opponent on Court Suzanne Lenglen, having her serve broken five times.

"She played very, very well today, better than me for sure," said Wozniacki, who had never before lost a set to Hantuchova in three previous matches. "She knew what she was going to go out there and do. She was just too good."

Following No. 2 Kim Clijsters' loss on Thursday, it is the first time in the Open era that the top two seeded women failed to make the round of 16 at a Grand Slam tournament.

Sam Stosur, last year's French Open runner-up, was also eliminated, but 2010 champion Francesca Schiavone advanced to the fourth round. On the men's side, 16-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer had 10 aces and only 20 unforced errors in a 6-1, 6-4, 6-3 win over No. 29 Janko Tipsarevic.

Novak Djokovic put his perfect season on the line against 2009 U.S. Open champion Juan Martin del Potro, but the match was suspended because of darkness. Djokovic won the first set but Del Potro took the second, leaving the score at 6-3, 3-6.

Wozniacki came into the French Open after winning the clay-court title at the Brussels Open.

During the final, she called for a trainer and had her left thigh bandaged.

Although she played the first two rounds at Roland Garros with the same thigh bandaged, she was not wearing any protection on her leg Friday.

But injured or not, the Grand Slam drought remains — even though Wozniacki said she is not concerned with what others think.

"The only one I feel pressure from is myself to go and give my all for every match and, obviously, I'm a competitor," Wozniacki said. "I love winning. I don't like losing."

Hantuchova beat a current No. 1 player for the first time in her career after six previous losses, including one against Wozniacki this season.

Federer, who won the French Open two years ago to complete a career Grand Slam, again had his serve working, landing 67 percent of his first serves and winning 84 percent of those points.

"So far in this tournament, I've been doing good job, but it's really only at the end of the tournament where I would think it really matters how I did," Federer said. "Right now it's important to keep that up and do that against the best players out there."

Seventh-seeded David Ferrer also won, beating No. 31 Sergiy Stakhovsky of Ukraine 6-1, 6-1, 6-3. No. 9 Gael

Monfils of France and No. 13 Richard Gasquet of France also advanced, while Albert Montanes of Spain defeated No. 12 Mikhail Youzhny of Russia 6-1, 7-6 (0), 6-1 and Fabio Fognini of Italy beat No. 30 Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 6-1.

No. 14 Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland came back from two sets down to beat No. 17 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France 4-6, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-3. Stosur was knocked out by Gisela Dulko of Argentina 6-4, 1-6, 6-3. The eighth-seeded Australian struggled early but easily won the second set to take back control. The 51st-ranked Dulko then put herself back in the match by breaking to take a 4-2 lead in the third. She then held twice to advance. "I was trying to be very aggressive, and I did it very well," Dulko said. "And I think after I have a few ups and downs, and I was lucky to play very good tennis at the end of the match."

Stosur, who also reached the semifinals at Roland Garros in 2009, had 35 unforced errors in the match on Court Philippe Chatrier.

"She seemed to be out ahead a little bit better and really kind of be the one dictating the points, which, for me, I'm usually the one able to do that," Stosur said. "Pretty much right from the first game she kind of set that tone, and it was very difficult for me to turn that around."

Schiavone was broken at the beginning of her match, but then won five straight games to take the first set and eventually the match when opponent Peng Shuai of China retired while trailing 6-3, 1-2. Peng called for a doctor after the first game of the second set and had her blood pressure checked. She looked exhausted in her chair and then started to cry but broke for a 2-0 lead.

Schiavone won the next game before her opponent quit. "I've been just sick for three or four days," Peng said, adding that she has had a fever. "So it's tough for me to play. I was really tired." □

Tiralongo wins stage 19 of Giro ahead of Contador



Italy's Paolo Tiralongo, left, thanks Spain's Alberto Contador after winning the 19th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Bergamo to Macugnaga, Friday, May 27, 2011.

Associated Press

MACUGNAGA, Italy (AP) — Paolo Tiralongo of Italy finished ahead of overall leader Alberto Contador to win the 19th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Friday.

The pair finished the 209-kilometer (129-mile) ride from Bergamo to Macugnaga together in 5 hours, 26 minutes, 27 seconds, after the Italian

had led the attack on the final climb to the finish. Vincenzo Nibali was third, three seconds behind.

"Today I wanted to try to give it my all," Tiralongo said. "I felt good and wanted to try and go for the win. At the 6km mark, Alberto said it would be a good time to attack and that's why I made my break

when I did."

Contador extended his lead over Michele Scarponi in the overall standings by 20 seconds to 5:18. Contador has an overall time of 77 hours, 11 minutes, 24 seconds.

"Today was an extraordinary stage. They were tough roads," Contador said. "When I had the chance I had to attack and that is why I was still able to attack at the end because the legs felt good."

Riders had to battle heavy rain early in the day and then contend with slippery conditions on the roads. By the 20km mark Jerome Pineau, Matteo Rabottini and Lars Bak led a breakaway group, with Pineau taking the points for the first climb of the day at Mottarone.

As conditions improved Stefano Garzelli, Mickael Cherel and Johann Tschopp caught up on the descent on Mottarone. □

Correia pitches Pirates past Cubs, 4-2

CHICAGO (AP)—Just call Kevin Correia the road warrior.

Correia pitched shutout ball into the eighth inning before the Pittsburgh Pirates held on to beat the Chicago Cubs 4-2 on Friday.

Correia (7-4) limited Chicago to four singles and a pair of walks in 7 1-3 innings. He moved into a tie with Boston's Jon Lester for the major league lead in wins, and has six of the Pirates' 14 victories away from PNC Park this season. "You throw half your games on the road your whole career, so it really doesn't effect me at all," Correia said. "Every place is a little different." Pittsburgh's Andrew McCutchen remained a thorn in the Cubs' side with two singles, a walk, an RBI and two stolen bases. He's reached base in 19 straight games against the Cubs.

Doug Davis (0-3) walked six batters and hit another during 4 2-3 innings in his 300th career appearance. The Cubs committed a pair of errors in the second that led to two unearned runs, and Davis allowed four in all.

"I'm not going to make any excuses for walking six people. That's for sure," Davis said. "I've been around long enough to know that walking

that many guys against any team is going to come back to haunt you."

Alfonso Soriano hit his 12th homer of the season, two-run shot off reliever Joe Beimel in the ninth, but Pittsburgh closer Joel Hanrahan came on to strike out three straight batters to remain perfect in 14 save chances this season.

"That's as sharp a slider as (Hanrahan) has had all season, as well as with the velocity of the fastball," Pirates manager Clint Hurdle said. The Cubs got two singles and a walk from Carlos Pena, but not much else. Pena has reached base in 20 of his last 21 games. Chicago loaded the bases in the eighth. After Correia allowed a single to Koyie Hill and walked Kosuke Fukudome he was replaced by reliever Jose Veras. He got Darwin Barney on a shallow fly to center, but walked Starlin Castro to load the bases.

Veras got cleanup hitter Aramis Ramirez on a pop fly to second to end the inning.

The Pirates improved to 14-12 on the road this season. Last season, they went 17-64 away from home, eight games worse than any other team in baseball. Davis's wildness didn't help the Cubs, nor did their continuing defensive problems, which led to two

unearned runs for the Pirates in the second.

After the first two batters reached, Ronny Cedeno's sacrifice bunt was mishandled by Davis, loading the bases. Ramirez then bobbled Correia's grounder to third, scoring Chris Snyder (with the game's first run. The second scored on Steve Pearce's sacrifice fly. "When a guy puts himself in that situation, the best thing you can do is wait him out," said Snyder, who caught Davis 61 times when both players were with Arizona from 2007-09. "Wait for the pitch. That's what we did."

It was the second straight game the Cubs have committed two errors in an inning, and the sixth time this season. They also dropped into last in the NL in fielding percentage. "We couldn't make two plays and they scratch for two," Cubs manager Mike Quade said. "All of a sudden it's a different ballgame. A clean game defensively puts us in the thing." The Pirates added two more runs against Davis in the fourth on three walks, a hit batter and an infield single. McCutchen drew a bases loaded walk to score Cedeno, and Neil Walker's infield hit brought home Jose Tabata.

Davis was finally pulled after walking Correia with two outs



Pittsburgh Pirates second baseman Neil Walker, left, jumps as he looks to first after forcing out Chicago Cubs' Carlos Pena during the seventh inning of a baseball game, Friday, May 27, 2011, in Chicago. The Cubs' Alfonso Soriano was out at first.

Associated Press

in the fifth. He had burned through 111 pitches by that point. Correia also beat the Cubs at Wrigley on April 1, the opening game for both teams. The Pirates have won three of their four games in Chicago this season, and have

beaten the Cubs in 15 of their last 21 meetings.

"I've been thoroughly impressed with (Correia's) preparation and the way he goes about his business," Hurdle said. "He makes pitches and gets us deep in ballgames." □

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California could require condoms in porn

SHAYA MOHAJER

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Porn performers in California would be required to use condoms in sex scenes if draft rules from state workplace safety officials advance out of the proposal phase.

Cal/OSHA officials provided the Associated Press with a 17-page draft proposal that contained sometimes graphic details of the bodily fluids, waste matter and other materials that porn actors must protect themselves against to avoid infection.

The draft is to be discussed at a public meeting in Los Angeles on June 7 and would later go to the state's Occupational Safety & Health Standards Board for a ruling on whether it becomes part of state code. The seven-member body is appointed by the governor and tasked with rulemaking to ensure safe and healthy workplaces in the state.

The draft says porn producers must provide and require "use of condoms or other barrier protection to prevent genital



From left, Dr. Gary Richwald, attorney Jeffrey Douglas and producer Christian Mann appear at a news conference in Los Angeles, where they announced the formation of the program Adult Production Health and Safety Services. The program has organized a network of health care providers, testing facilities and labs to serve performers in the adult film industry.

(AP Photo/Reed Saxon)

and oral contact with the blood or (any other bodily fluids) of another person."

The draft specifies that condoms can't be reused, cannot be expired, or used with multiple partners.

Performers wouldn't be allowed to share razors under the rules. And employers would have to keep sex toys clean.

The producer would also have to ensure that body areas contaminated with bodily fluids are cleaned between sexual acts with the same or different partners under the draft rules. The draft also makes rules for

employers to provide medical services and follow-up for all employees who have been exposed to possibly infectious materials.

The draft also calls for sex workers to be provided with vaccines for human papilloma virus and hepatitis B.

Employers would have to provide showers to performers and follow rules on how laundry contaminated with human fluids must be handled.

The proposed change in rules comes in response to a complaint filed in 2009 by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, calling on the state to require condoms in porn. Since the complaint, Cal/OSHA has been meeting with stakeholders to discuss implementing a more specific rule.

Cal/OSHA has said they always believed porn performers fall under the same section of state workplace safety law that requires nurses to wear protective gear to spare them exposure to blood-borne and fluid-borne illnesses, but the law has never been made specific to porn sets. □

Vatican convenes AIDS experts amid condom flap

NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — The Vatican on Friday welcomed AIDS experts from around the world for a two-day symposium on preventing HIV and caring for people with the virus, just months after the pope made international headlines with his groundbreaking comments about condoms and AIDS.

Organizers insist the meeting won't call into question traditional church teaching opposing artificial contraception. Yet Pope Benedict XVI's comments last year about condom use with prostitutes with HIV seem to have removed a certain Vatican taboo that had all but ruled out public discussion of whether condoms were

even effective in reducing HIV transmission.

Some of the speakers at the conference organized by the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers strongly advocate condom use to prevent HIV's spread. They include Dr. Michel Sidibe, executive director of UNAIDS, the U.N. agency which maintains that condoms are an "integral and essential" part of prevention programs, which the U.N. says should also include education about delaying the start of sexual activity, limiting sexual partners and marital fidelity.

Sidibe speaks Saturday, when the substance of the conference gets under way. The Vatican's No. 2 attended the ceremonial opening session Friday, a seal of approval of sorts from the Holy

See's top office.

In a book interview in November, Benedict said condoms were never a moral solution to fighting AIDS. But he said someone, such as a male prostitute, who uses a condom to prevent HIV transmission might be showing a first sign of a more moral and responsible sexuality because he is looking out for the welfare of another person. The comments were significant. While there had never been an official Vatican policy about condoms and HIV, some Vatican officials had previously insisted that condoms not only don't help fight HIV transmission but make it worse because they gave users a false sense of security. Some claimed the HIV virus could easily pass through the condom's latex bar-

rier.

Benedict himself drew the wrath of UNAIDS and several European countries when, en route to Africa in 2009, he told reporters that the AIDS problem couldn't be resolved by distributing condoms. "On the contrary, it increases the problem," he said then.

The comments and the Catholic Church's overall opposition to condoms as contraception have drawn fierce criticism, particularly in Africa, where an estimated 22.4 million people are infected with HIV, two-thirds of the global total.

Benedict's revised comments in the book "Light of the World," however, drew near-universal praise, even if interpretations of what he meant differed wildly. □

Google, PayPal tussle over mobile payment secrets

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google Inc.'s ambitious plan to supplant credit cards with smartphones has thrust the Internet search leader into a legal tussle with online payment pioneer PayPal, which contends Google stole its ideas by hiring away two key executives.

PayPal painted a picture of betrayal and corporate espionage in a lawsuit filed late Thursday in a California state court, just hours after the unveiling of the "Google Wallet" payment service in New York. The 28-page complaint alleges the service evolved from research that eBay Inc.'s PayPal had been working on for the past decade.

PayPal fingers two central

culprits in the intellectual heist — one of its former executives, Osama Bedier, and former eBay executive Stephanie Tilenius.

In its response Friday, Google contends it merely identified talented candidates to run its mobile payments service and then made them offers that proved too tempting to refuse. "Silicon Valley was built on the ability of individuals to use their knowledge and expertise to seek better employment opportunities, a principle recognized by both California law and public policy," Google spokesman Aaron Zamost said. "We respect trade secrets, and will defend ourselves against these claims."

The civil complaint alleges Google spent more than two years discussing a partner-

ship that would have relied on PayPal to process payments for an application market set up for Google's mobile phone software, Android.

Google cut off the Android talks earlier this year after it had poached enough PayPal employees to set up its own mobile payments service, according to the suit. The suit doesn't directly connect the application markets system with the technology behind Google Wallet.

Google recruited Bedier, a PayPal executive for nine years, while the two companies were in talks about their alliance. After initially waffling, Bedier left PayPal to become Google's vice president of payments four months ago. Before leaving, Bedier transferred some of PayPal's secrets to his computer and also uploaded other sensitive information to an Internet storage locker called DropBox, the suit alleged. Bedier also began lobbying for Google to hire other PayPal employees working on mobile payments before he took the new job, the suit said.

Google wanted to hire Bedier



Exterior view of PayPal and eBay offices in San Jose, Calif., Friday, May 27, 2011. Google says it will fight allegations that it stole PayPal's trade secrets to develop a service that allows people to use their smartphones like credit cards.

Associated Press

Skype says some users had problems signing in



NEW YORK (AP) — Internet phone service Skype says a small percentage of its 170 million users have been unable to sign in to its service, a problem that it expects to fix with a software update.

Skype said on its website the trouble stemmed from corrupted data affecting computers using Windows, Linux or Macintosh operating systems. The company, which is based in Luxembourg, said it released a new version of Skype for Windows late Thursday to deal with issue. On Friday, it released a version for Mac. Linux users were told to delete a file manually.

Skype said individuals using its service on cellphones, televisions or other non-computer

devices were unaffected.

Skype's service, which allows users to make voice or video calls for free or for low rates, has become a popular way to lower calling costs.

Microsoft Corp., the world's biggest software maker, is buying Skype for \$8.5 billion in a deal expected to close by the end of the year. Microsoft believes Skype will help it sell more digital advertising and offer more popular conferencing tools to help businesses save money.

Skype's services also span hot markets — online socializing, mobile phones and digital video — where Microsoft has been struggling to catch up with Facebook, Apple Inc. and Google Inc. □

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A Fiat logo is displayed outside the Fiat of Lakeside dealership in Macomb Township, Mich., Monday, May 23, 2011. Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne said Monday that his company will save \$300 million in interest a year when it repays \$7.5 billion in U.S. and Canadian government loans on Tuesday.

Associated Press

Fiat to buy remaining U.S. stake in Chrysler

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Italian automaker Fiat SpA said Friday that it will buy the Treasury’s remaining stake in Chrysler Group LLC, freeing the automaker of U.S. government ownership. The Turin, Italy-based company notified the U.S. Treasury that it will exercise an option to buy the government’s 6 percent stake. The price will be negotiated within 10 business days, or by around June 10. When the sale would happen remains unclear. But Fiat is moving quickly to take a controlling stake in Chrysler, which it has run since the company left bankruptcy protection in June of 2009. Chrysler has made a remarkable turnaround. Before bankruptcy, the automaker was nearly out of cash and needed \$10.5 billion in U.S. government money to survive. The company made a first-quarter net profit of \$116 million and is forecasting 2011 earnings of \$200 million to \$500 million. Under the leadership of Fiat CEO Sergio Marchionne, the company has cut costs and revived its sales by refurbishing most of its lineup of Jeep, Chrysler, Dodge and Ram vehicles.

Buying out the government would give Fiat 52 percent ownership of Chrysler. That’s likely to rise to 57 percent before the end of the year when Chrysler begins producing a 40 mpg (17 kpl) small car in the U.S.

Fiat received a 20 percent stake in Chrysler after the bankruptcy in exchange for management expertise and technology. The Italian automaker has gradually raised its stake by meeting benchmarks set by the government. Last week it paid about \$1.3 billion to buy another 16 percent of the company. On Tuesday, Chrysler repaid a total of \$7.6 billion in loans from the U.S. and Canadian governments by refinancing them through a combination of bank loans, bond sales and the investment from Fiat. Even with the loan repayment, the government has yet to recover about \$2 billion of the \$10.5 billion in bailout money. Fiat’s stock purchase will help some, but the government has conceded it will not recoup all of the money. Some of the cash went to the old Chrysler, which was split off from the new one in the bankruptcy proceedings. Fiat could own more than 70 percent of Chrysler if it exercises options to buy part of the stake now held by a United Auto Workers retiree health care trust fund. Friday’s announcement was seen as good news in Washington, where the bailouts of Chrysler and General Motors have been criticized as interference in the free market. “Not long ago Chrysler, and hundreds of thousands of jobs, were in danger of vanishing,” U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, a Michigan Democrat, said in a statement. □



Natural disasters probably won’t bruise U.S. economy

C. S. RUGABER
JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writers
WASHINGTON (AP) —

The tornadoes and floods that have devastated parts of the South and Midwest have also hammered the local economies — flooding farmlands, suspending factory work and disrupting energy production. Yet for the U.S. economy overall, the damage will likely be scant. At most, the disasters might knock one-tenth of 1 percentage point off national economic growth in the April-June quarter, Wells Fargo economist Mark Vitner estimates.

“It’s so small, you aren’t going to notice it,” said Patrick Newport, an economist at IHS Global Insight.

Others caution, though, that the tornado season hasn’t



Pastor John Ennis, from Columbus, Ohio, walks away after looking at a car that landed in a swimming pool and helping a resident of a devastated Joplin, Mo. neighborhood salvage items Thursday, May 26, 2011. An EF-5 tornado tore through much of the city Sunday, damaging a hospital and hundreds of homes and businesses and killing at least 126 people.

Washington state bank is shut; 44 failures in 2011

WASHINGTON — Regulators on Friday shut down a small bank in Washington state, pushing to 44 the number of U.S. bank failures this year in the wake of a severe recession and mounting troubled loans. The pace of closures has slowed, however, as the economy improves and banks work their way through the bad debt. By this time last year, regulators had closed 78 banks. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. seized Snohomish, Wash.-based First Heritage Bank, with \$173.5 million in assets and \$163.3 million in deposits. Tacoma, Wash.-based Columbia State Bank has agreed to assume the assets and deposits of the failed bank. In addition, the FDIC and Columbia State Bank have agreed to share losses on \$142.2 million of First Heritage Bank’s loans and other assets.

The failure of First Heritage Bank is expected to cost the deposit insurance fund \$34.9 million. With failures slowing, its deficit narrowed in the first quarter of this year and stood at about \$1 billion as of March 31. The FDIC expects the cost of resolving failed banks to total around \$52 billion from 2010 through 2014. Depositors’ money — insured up to \$250,000 per account — is not at risk, with the FDIC backed by the government. That insurance cap was made permanent in the financial overhaul law enacted last July. The number of banks on the FDIC’s confidential “problem” list edged up to 888 in the January-March quarter from 884 as of Dec. 31. The 888 troubled banks is the highest number since 1993, during the savings-and-loan crisis. □

The FDIC has said that 2010 likely would mark the peak for bank failures.

There were 140 bank failures in 2009, costing the insurance fund about \$36 billion. The failures last year cost around \$21 billion, a lower price tag because the banks that failed in 2010 were smaller on average. Twenty-five banks failed in 2008, the year the financial crisis struck with force; only three were closed in 2007. From 2008, the year the financial crisis struck, through 2010, bank failures cost the fund

\$76.8 billion. The deposit insurance fund fell into the red in 2009. With failures slowing, its deficit narrowed in the first quarter of this year and stood at about \$1 billion as of March 31. The FDIC expects the cost of resolving failed banks to total around \$52 billion from 2010 through 2014. Depositors’ money — insured up to \$250,000 per account — is not at risk, with the FDIC backed by the government. That insurance cap was made permanent in the financial overhaul law enacted last July. The number of banks on the FDIC’s confidential “problem” list edged up to 888 in the January-March quarter from 884 as of Dec. 31. The 888 troubled banks is the highest number since 1993, during the savings-and-loan crisis. □

Associated Press

ended yet, and the hurricane season has yet to arrive. Further major disasters could begin to weigh on the U.S. economy. Early forecasts estimate that the economy will have grown at a 2.5 percent to 3 percent annual rate in the current April-June quarter. That’s a relatively weak pace that wouldn’t spur robust job growth. Still, it’s above the 1.8 percent growth the government reported Thursday for the January-March period. The natural disasters haven’t led economists to reduce their estimates for April-June quarter. “This is a very extreme year,” said Tom Larsen, a senior vice president at Eqecat, a firm that estimates the impact of catastrophes for insurance companies and government agencies. “If it were to stop right now, it would be a once every 25 years’ or every 50 years’ occurrence.” But Larsen doesn’t expect it to stop. “There will be more tornadoes and more property damage,”

he said.

Typically, damage caused by tornadoes is more concentrated than damage from powerful hurricanes, such as Katrina, economists say. The tornado that devastated Joplin, Missouri, on Sunday probably won’t slow the overall state’s economy very much, said Ben Kanigel, an associate economist at Moody’s Analytics. That’s because Joplin accounts for only about 2 percent of Missouri’s economic output.

Larsen estimates that the Joplin twister, the deadliest in the United States in more than six decades, and the tornadoes in late April that damaged parts of Alabama and six other Southern states could cause more than \$8 billion in losses. His firm hasn’t yet made a similar estimate for the Mississippi flood. Though a blow to the local areas, \$8 billion in losses would hardly make a dent in a national economy that produces about \$15 trillion in goods and services every year. The United States is the world’s largest economy. The economy is measured by the gross domestic product. The GDP tracks only what the economy produces; it doesn’t account for wealth or property. So if a tornado destroys a factory, the value of the lost factory isn’t counted in GDP. Only its lost output is. Likewise, the loss of a house and other personal property isn’t reflected in GDP.

Yet rebuilding from a disaster can add to GDP, because reconstruction would boost output. Construction firms rebuild homes and factories. And consumers replace lost cars and appliances. That’s why analysts predict that any loss of economic output in the April-June period would be reversed in the July-September quarter. □

Oil up slightly as long weekend approaches



A motor home leaves a gas station after filling up for the long Memorial Day weekend in Valencia, Calif., Friday, May 27, 2011. With gas prices still topping the \$4-a-gallon mark in much of the country and forcing holiday travelers to spend more on fill-ups than they will on hotel rooms.

Associated Press

CHRIS KAHN

AP Energy Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil inched up Friday in light trading before the Memorial Day weekend.

Benchmark crude for July delivery added 36 cents to settle at \$100.59 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, Brent crude fell 2 cents to \$115.03 per barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange. Demand for oil and gasoline has been falling, and a Friday report on U.S. consumer spending was weak. Still, analysts believe investors are cautious about selling ahead of a long holiday break. In February, oil prices shot up more than \$7 per barrel as the Libyan uprising escalated over the President’s Day weekend. Fighting continues in Libya and there are other anti-government protests throughout the oil-rich Middle East.

In Syria, security forces opened fire on demonstrators Friday, and tribesmen in Yemen said they’d seized a Republican Guard military camp.

Energy experts say Libya’s 1.5 million barrels of daily oil exports will remain offline for at least several months. That loss continues to put pressure on other oil producers to make up the difference.

As world oil demand increases, Wall Street is betting that tightened supplies will inevitably push oil close to record levels.

Goldman Sachs said this week that West Texas Intermediate crude, the U.S. benchmark, will hit \$135 per barrel by the end of 2012. Morgan Stanley said Brent will average \$120 per barrel this year, while J.P. Morgan thinks Brent will be \$130 per barrel in the third quarter. Oil is down about 12 percent in May and WTI

has recently traded in a range of \$97 to \$101. U.S. pump prices, which tend to lag oil prices, dropped about 3 percent and are now at \$3.80 per gallon. Tom Kloza, an analyst at Oil Price Information Services, expects gas to fall to between \$3.50 and \$3.60 in June. But a rebound in price later this year close to what in investment banks are forecasting would put pressure on the global economy and squeeze drivers. At those levels for oil, gasoline will likely rise to around \$4.25 per gallon (\$1.12 a liter), Kloza said. “That would hurt,” he said. “Gasoline prices are at the top of everyone’s mind right now.” Consumer gasoline demand already has dropped during the past nine weeks as the national average approached \$4 per gallon. “We’ve seen some real damage to the consumer’s psyche,” Kloza said.

The national average for gas has declined for 15 straight days to \$3.809 per gallon (\$1.05 a liter), according to auto club AAA, Wright Express and Oil Price Information Service. A gallon of regular unleaded is \$1.05 more expensive than the same time last year. In other Nymex trading, heating oil for June delivery added nearly a penny to settle at \$3.0014 per gallon and gasoline futures for June delivery increased 2.39 cents to settle at \$3.0313 per gallon. Natural gas for July delivery increased 15.8 cents to settle at \$4.518 per 1,000 cubic feet. □



In hip-hop blogs, a faster track to fame



Rick Ross, now of the Maybach Music Group, in New York, April 23, 2011. The group released the album “Maybach Music Group Presents: Self Made, Vol. 1” on Maybach Music Group/Warner Brothers, a new label deal with Warner Brothers, signed in the wake of Ross’s breakthrough success with last year’s “Teflon Don” album. (Chad Batka/The New York Times)

Jon Caramanica

© 2011 New York Times

Rick Ross has old friends, and Rick Ross has new friends. The old friends are from the neighborhood: Ross’ first crew was Triple Cs, or Carol City Cartel, named after the rough Miami neighborhood that Ross and the other members – Gunplay, Young Breed, Torch – called home. Where did Ross meet his new friends, the members of Maybach Music Group? It’s 2011: He met them on the Internet. Well, maybe that’s not where he met them, but it’s where they’re from, more or less, where they’ve achieved their

greatest notoriety outside their hometowns. The new crew members – Pill, Meek Mill, Wale, among others – with heavy presences on hip-hop blogs, exemplify the modern way of getting attention.

Judging by the composition of Maybach Music Group, the speed with which it was assembled, and the subsequent speed with which it released its album, it’s hard not to think that Ross used rap blogs as a scouting tool, as a virtual farm team and also as an inspiration. The group’s rollout shows no fear of the Internet as a distribution platform or as a cannibalizer of sales: About

half of the songs on “Maybach Music Group Presents: Self Made, Vol. 1” (Maybach Music Group/Warner Brothers) were made available online in the weeks before the album’s release.

“Self Made” arrives via a new label deal with Warner Brothers, signed in the wake of Ross’ breakthrough success with last year’s “Teflon Don.” Mostly, the new album is true to the sort of bombast he perfected on “Teflon Don.” The choruses here are built of concrete – Ross sounds insistent whether shouting “Tupac back!” or wheezing “600 Beeeeenz” – and

the production, full of king-size ominousness, isn’t from Lex Luger (save one track), who’s trademarked that sound but from a cadre of would-be Lugers. But where Triple Cs, on its 2009 debut album “Custom Cars & Cycles” (Maybach Music/Def Jam), felt like an extension of Ross, the new group feels haphazard. And “Self Made” is of course a hilarious name for an album created for the express purpose of coattail riding. Pill, Meek Mill and Wale have nothing in common but the MMG chain they wear. Pill, from Atlanta, has a coiled, drawling flow.

He first gained notice in 2009, on the back of his stark video for his single “Trap Goin’ Ham,” which became a favorite of the rap Internet. But though he signed with Asylum, another Warner Brothers imprint, last year, he’s yet to capitalize on the initial wave of blog interest. His marriage of convenience with Maybach Music Group has already provided him with his most prominent song to date, the Ross collaboration “Pacman.” Meek Mill, from Philadelphia, is an excitable barker, as heard on his “Flamerz” series of mixtapes, which have been circulating on blogs in the last couple of years. (The Internet is where mixtapes live now, on sites like LiveMixtapes and DatPiff.) Last summer he had a local hit, “Rose Red,” which helped inaugurate his relationship with Ross, who rapped on the remix. □

Court refuses to reconsider Phil Spector’s new appeal

LINDA DEUTSCH, AP Special Correspondent LOS ANGELES (AP) —

An appeals court on Friday refused to reconsider music producer Phil Spector’s appeal of his murder conviction, saying there was overwhelming evidence of his guilt. The California 2nd District Court of Appeal panel acknowledged it did not consider an issue that defense lawyers now say was critical to his conviction.

The panel blamed the lawyers for failing to sufficiently brief the point and said they had no obligation to consider it.

They quoted case law saying, “Issues do not have a life of their own: if they are not raised ... we consider the issues waived.”

Spector, a legendary rock music producer, was convicted two years ago of fatally shooting actress Lana Clarkson at his Alhambra mansion in 2003. He is serving 19 years to life in prison on a second-degree murder conviction.

His first trial ended in a hung jury; the second ended in a conviction.

Defense lawyer Dennis Riordan said he will be filing an appeal with the California Supreme Court on June 13. Riordan said in an interview the court ignored a central issue of the case.

“This is the single piece of evidence they can’t explain away,” he said. “Shooting the messenger is simply not an adequate response to a legal issue of this importance.”

Attorneys had argued in the appeal that during the trial, Superior Court Judge Larry Paul Fidler prejudiced the case by allowing prosecutors to use pictures of him in closing arguments as if he was a witness.

They said Fidler also improperly allowed jurors to watch a videotape of him explaining testimony by a witness about forensic evidence at a hearing outside the jury’s presence. □

Lindsay Lohan settles suit over 2007 highway chase

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Lindsay Lohan has settled a lawsuit filed by a woman who was chased by the actress in a pre-dawn pursuit that has haunted the actress in civil and criminal courts for nearly three years.

The starlet on Wednesday settled the lawsuit filed by Tracie Rice, who claimed she was traumatized and lost a well-paying job because of the incident, court records show.

Rice was a passenger in a car driven by the mother of Lo-

han’s former assistant, who the actress pursued down the scenic Pacific Coast Highway in July 2007. The chase ended with Lohan’s arrest in the parking lot of a police department; Rice has said she thought the actress was trying to carjack her. No details of the settlement, which was first reported Friday by celebrity website TMZ, were released. “Lindsay is very pleased to put this unfortunate event behind her,” her attorney, Ed McPherson, wrote in a statement.

Lohan was arrested twice for driving under the influence in 2007, and remains on probation for offenses. She has struggled to comply with the terms of her release, with three separate judges sending her to jail since July 2010.

The “Mean Girls” star was sentenced to four months in jail last month for violating her probation by taking a necklace without permission, and on Thursday surrendered to authorities and began serving her term on house arrest.

She is expected to spend roughly 35 days on home confinement.

Rice’s case against Lohan has been repeatedly delayed in the past year because of Lohan’s stints in jail and rehab. Rice’s attorney, Paul L. Hoffman, did not immediately return a call seeking comment Friday.

Lohan is also being sued by three men who were in the sport utility vehicle the actress used to pursue Rice. McPherson wrote the actress expects to be vindicated in that case. □

'Taxi,' 'Grease' star Jeff Conaway dies at 60

LYNN ELBER

Associated Press Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jeff Conaway, who starred in the TV comedy "Taxi," played swaggering Kenickie in the movie musical "Grease" and publicly battled drug and alcohol addiction on the reality show "Celebrity Rehab," died Friday. He was 60.

The actor was taken off life support Thursday and died Friday morning at Encino Tarzana Medical Center, according to one of his managers, Kathryn Boole.

"It's sad that people remember his struggle with drugs. ... He has touched so many people," she said, calling Conaway a kind and intelligent man who was well read and "always so interesting to talk to. We respected him as an artist and loved him as a friend."

"He was trying so hard to get clean and sober," Boole added. "If it hadn't been for his back pain, I think he would have been able to do it." Family members, including his sisters, nieces and nephews, and his minister, were with him when he died, Boole said.

He was taken to the hospital unconscious on May 11 and placed in a medically induced coma while being treated for pneumonia and sepsis, which is blood poisoning caused by a bacterial infection.

Conaway had failed to seek medical aid, instead trying to treat himself with pain pills

and cold medicine, said Phil Brock, Boole's business partner.

"He's a gentle soul with a good heart ... but he's never been able to exorcise his demons," Brock said after Conaway was hospitalized.

Conaway is the second person who appeared in the VH1 reality series "Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew" who later died. In March, former Alice in Chains bassist Mike Starr, who was on the show in 2009, was found dead in Salt Lake City. The month before, police there had arrested him on suspicion of possession of medications without a required prescription.

Messages seeking comment from Pinsky, a physician and radio and TV personality, were not immediately returned Friday.

Conaway had acknowledged his addictive tendencies in a 1985 interview with The Associated Press, when he described turning his back on the dream of a pop music career. He'd played guitar in a 1960s band called 3 1/2 that was the opening act for groups including Herman's Hermits, The Young Rascals and The Animals.

"I thought, 'If I stay in this business, I'll be dead in a year.' There were drugs all over the place and people were doing them. I had started to do them. I realized that I'd

die," Conaway told the AP.

His effort to avoid addiction failed, and his battles with cocaine and other substances were painfully shared in two stints on "Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew." Conaway, who'd had repeated back surgeries for an injury, blamed his cocaine use and pain pill abuse in part on his lingering back problem.

Conaway was born in New York City on Oct. 5, 1950, to parents who were in show business. His father was an actor, producer and agent, and his mother was an actress.

He made his Broadway debut in 1960 at the age of 10 in the Pulitzer Prize-winning play "All the Way Home." By then his parents were divorced, and Conaway had spent a great deal of time with his grandparents who lived in the Astoria section of the borough of Queens.

"I used to hold in a lot of feelings. I'd smile a lot but I was really miserable. I didn't know it at the time, but I've figured it out since. When I was on stage, I could make people laugh," he said in 1985.

He toured in the national company of the comedy "Critic's Choice," then attended a professional high school for young actors, musicians and singers. After abandoning music he returned to acting with a two-year stint in "Grease," on Broadway (playing the lead role of Danny Zuko at one point) and eventually with the touring company. □



In this undated publicity photo released by Fox, Simon Cowell, from "The X Factor," is shown. Fox, as part of its new season schedule announcement on Monday, May 16, 2011, said it will introduce eight new series next year. They include Simon Cowell's talent show "The X Factor," which was given time slots in the fall similar to "American Idol."

(AP Photo/Fox, Ian Derry)

Paula Abdul, Cowell getting along on 'X Factor,' for now

ALEX KENNEDY

Associated Press

SINGAPORE (AP) — Paula Abdul said Friday her reunion with Simon Cowell on his new talent show is going great, for now.

"We're still in the honeymoon phase, which will probably only last another minute," the 48-year-old Abdul told reporters in Singapore. "Simon and I ended up having a wonderful, exquisite, challenging and frightening relationship."

The two famously bickering former "American Idol" judges will be joining forces again to assess would-be singing stars on Fox's "The X Factor," which taped its first judging session earlier this month and will debut this fall in the U.S.

Abdul is looking to bounce back from "Live to Dance," a talent competition series she starred that premiered on CBS in January and was a ratings disappointment.

The tension and teasing between Cowell and Abdul helped make "Idol" one of the most popular television shows. She left the show in 2009 over a contract dispute after eight seasons.

"This little show is probably going to be ginormous if it's anything like what Simon is capable of doing," Abdul said.

The American pop singer and dancer is in Singapore to promote a Universal Studios theme park. □

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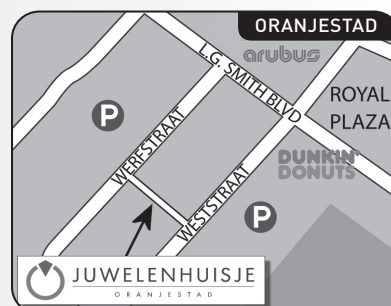
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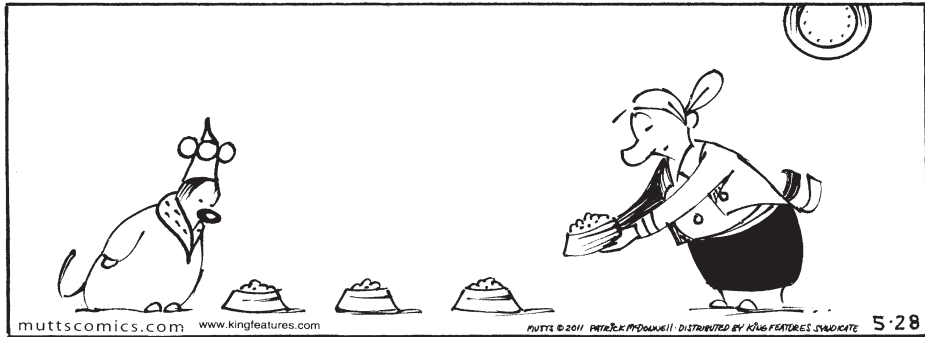


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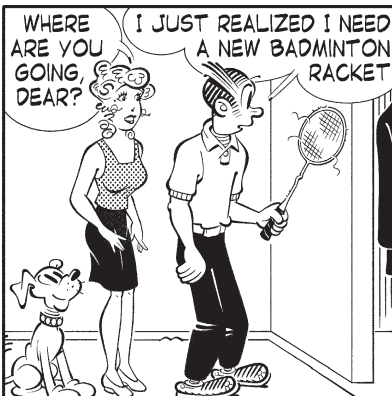
Mutts



6 Chix



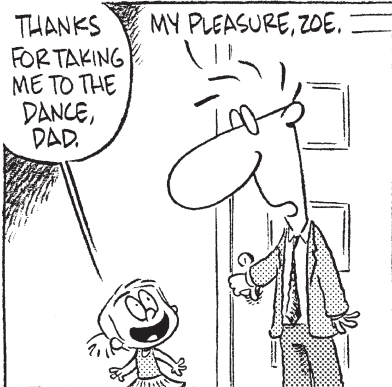
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		8						
			5		6	2	4	
1				2			3	
	3		6				1	
		9				8		
	6				4		7	
	5			1				3
	7	6	4		9			
						9		

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

5/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

8	5	7	2	3	4	9	6	1
3	6	1	5	7	9	8	4	2
9	2	4	6	1	8	7	3	5
4	8	5	3	2	7	1	9	6
7	9	6	4	5	1	2	8	3
2	1	3	9	8	6	5	7	4
1	3	8	7	6	2	4	5	9
6	4	2	8	9	5	3	1	7
5	7	9	1	4	3	6	2	8

ACROSS

- 1 One who attempts
- 6 Throat-clearing sound
- 10 Controversial rights org.
- 14 Row of shrubs
- 15 Emperor who fiddled while Rome burned
- 16 Make arrangements
- 17 Venerate
- 18 Trolley car
- 19 Golf hole averages
- 20 Loafing
- 22 Come forth
- 24 Remain
- 25 Athletic shoe
- 26 Sounds
- 29 Spud
- 30 In one ___ and out the other
- 31 Fight off
- 33 "Ode on a Grecian Urn" poet
- 37 Injection
- 39 Reverie
- 41 Critical
- 42 Melodies
- 44 Put a stop to
- 46 Cub Scout group
- 47 Zurich residents
- 49 Discontinued
- 51 Long-sleeved robes
- 54 Fraud; hoax
- 55 Alleviates
- 56 Conversation
- 60 Boxing match
- 61 In the center of
- 63 Wipe away
- 64 Turn __; become
- 65 Main part of a cathedral
- 66 Come apart, as a piece of yarn
- 67 At no time, to a poet
- 68 Observed
- 69 Downhill gliders

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21			22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28				29						
30				31		32			33	34	35	36
37		38		39				40		41		
42				43		44			45		46	
			47		48			49		50		
51	52	53					54					
55						56				57	58	59
60						61	62		63			
64						65			66			
67						68			69			

5/28/11

Friday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- 1 Bangkok native
- 2 Late actor Fox
- 3 False deity
- 4 Exit
- 5 Come in again
- 6 Nervous
- 7 His and ___
- 8 Historical age
- 9 Second
- 10 Became visible
- 11 Actor ___ Gable
- 12 Spacious
- 13 Racer Al ___
- 21 ___ up; relaxed
- 23 Submissive
- 25 Dinner course
- 26 Robin's home
- 27 Hawaiian island
- 28 Press clothes
- 29 Adolescents
- 32 Squeeze
- 34 Helps
- 35 Maple or linden
- 36 Transmit
- 38 One who dies leaving a will
- 40 Place of pilgrimage
- 43 Persuade
- 45 Sellers of illegal drugs
- 48 Crazy
- 50 Lacking a sense of ethics
- 51 Home of logs
- 52 Without companions
- 53 Woodwind
- 54 ___ with; supported
- 56 Shabby bar
- 57 Donated
- 58 ___ up; spent
- 59 Morays and congers
- 62 Spring month

SEEN	GRATE	BRIM
LACE	RULER	LOSE
AVOW	OBSERVABLE	
YEN	SOLO	ONSET
	OLIVE	TIC
FAMILY	ARCHES	
EDICT	LEVEE	AIL
TACK	DOGIE	OGRE
AMA	BROOD	MULES
SLALOM	RECENT	
	SAP	OATHS
AMISH	LUGE	CUB
FORESEEING	BONE	
APIN	LANCE	RUDE
REST	FREED	ATOP

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191893-B

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191991-A

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Divi Village	
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HIV STIGMA

Because of the stigma associated with HIV, many people are reluctant to get tested and an infected person may unknowingly continue to have unprotected sexual relationships.

Persons already diagnosed know they have a responsibility to prevent further transmission. Fear of being stigmatized, however, may prevent some persons from disclosing their status.
Stigma drives the infection underground and makes it more difficult to contain the spread of HIV.
Before you stigmatize or discriminate against someone with HIV, STOP! THINK ABOUT IT.



In this image from NASA television astronaut Greg Chamitoff, on the robotic arm, left, and astronaut Mike Fincke work outside the International Space Station as the complex passes off the east Coast of the U.S. during the fourth spacewalk Friday morning May 27, 2011

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Two astronauts stepped into the history books on the fourth and final spacewalk of NASA's next-to-last shuttle mission Friday, completing construction of the International Space Station with the smooth addition of an ex-

tension pole.

"Space station assembly is complete," space shuttle Endeavour's commander, Mark Kelly, announced once the 50-foot boom was securely latched.

Spacewalkers Mike Fincke and Gregory Chamitoff teamed up with robot arm operator Gregory Johnson to ac-

Astronauts make history on fourth, final spacewalk

comply with the job.

"Assembly complete. Amazing," Chamitoff said. "Boy, this is a big space station," he marveled several minutes later.

Fincke and Chamitoff are the last shuttle crew members to perform a spacewalk. All future spacewalks — including one during the final shuttle voyage this summer — will be performed by full-time space station residents.

Another milestone was within close reach: 1,000 hours of spacewalking at the orbiting outpost.

Before Friday morning, astronauts had logged 995 hours outside for space station assembly and maintenance. With a planned excursion of more than six hours — the 159th spacewalk to build the

station and keep it humming since 1998 — Fincke and Chamitoff were poised to hit the 1,000-hour mark before going back inside.

The space station's new boom was used by shuttle Endeavour's astronauts on Thursday to survey their ship one last time in orbit.

They attached the camera- and laser-tipped pole to a robot arm to check for micrometeorite damage.

NASA expects to finish reviewing the 3-D images Friday. If everything looks good, managers will clear Endeavour for next week's trip home. The boom, which launched aboard Endeavour, will remain permanently at the space station and assist with future repairs, especially in hard-to-reach areas. The shuttle

also delivered a \$2 billion particle physics detector that was placed on the station last week.

Endeavour, docked at the space station through this weekend, is making its last flight before being retired to a museum in California.

Atlantis will close out the 30-year shuttle program in July.

“Beautiful Endeavour,” Fincke called out as the space-walk got under way. “She’s a great ship.”

"Looks like she belongs right there," Chamitoff agreed.

The spacewalkers also savored the views 220 miles below.

“Most beautiful planet in the solar system — wow,” Fincke said.

Later Friday, Fincke will surpass the U.S. record of 377 days in space.

He spent six months living on the space station — twice. This is his first shuttle trip; he previously rode Russian Soyuz rockets into orbit. “I could not share this moment with a group of better people, including our friends on the ground,” Fincke radioed.

Endeavour and its crew of six will leave the space station late Sunday night.

Landing is set for the predawn hours of Wednesday during a rare touchdown in darkness.

While NASA's role in space station construction is over, the Russian Space Agency may add another chamber or two in years to come. The Russians also will continue to provide rides to and from the orbiting lab for U.S. astronauts until private companies in America are able to take over the job. □

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Venezuela acuerda puesta en órbita de segundo satélite

VENEZUELA (AP) — Venezuela formalizó el jueves un acuerdo para comprar a China un satélite de observación terrestre, con el cual esta nación sudamericana espera contar con información oportuna que permita desde estimar cultivos hasta evaluar daños ambientales.

El gobierno venezolano dijo que el satélite está pensado con propósitos pacíficos y podría ayudar en la detección temprana de desastres naturales. “Vamos a tener un satélite que facilitará el monitoreo las 24 horas del día sobre el territorio nacional, lo que nos

generará un potencial enorme en términos de la asistencia en situaciones extremas, como es el caso de las arremetidas de las lluvias”, indicó el ministro de Ciencia, Tecnología e Industrias Intermedias, Ricardo Menéndez. Se espera que el nuevo dispositivo satelital sea puesto en órbita en octubre del año 2012, resaltó Menéndez en declaraciones difundidas por la agencia estatal de noticias AVN. Con una vida útil estimada de 5 o 6 años, el satélite geoestacionario permitirá además la clasificación detallada de los suelos de todo el país y la posibilidad de tener una cartografía de-

tallada del territorio venezolano cada 40 días, informó el gobierno. El satélite tiene un costo de 140 millones de dólares, que incluye la puesta en órbita y la capacitación del personal venezolano. El anuncio se produjo casi tres años después del lanzamiento del primer satélite venezolano, el cual tiene como propósito permitir la cobertura en telecomunicaciones, particularmente en regiones aisladas, como la casi totalidad de los estados Delta Amacuro, Amazonas y el sur del estado Bolívar que entonces no contaban con sistemas de comunicaciones comerciales.

El costo de ese primer satélite fue de 241 millones de dólares. También requirió una inversión adicional de 165 millones de dólares para la construcción de dos estaciones de control en el estado central de Guárico y otra auxiliar en el suroriental estado Bolívar. El jefe ingeniero de la Corporación de Ciencia y Tecnología Aeroespacial de China, Sun Weigang, señaló que “este satélite va a promover sin duda la cooperación de los dos países en todos los sectores, y va a promover en Venezuela, a través de esta tecnología de observación terrestre, el desarrollo de todo los sectores sociales”. □

Chile:

Confirman identidad de restos de Allende

SANTIAGO DE CHILE (AP) — Las pericias odontológicas determinaron que los restos exhumados el lunes corresponden al derrocado presidente chileno Salvador Allende, informó el viernes el juez que investiga la causa de su muerte durante el golpe militar de 1973. “Con base a la información disponible y la aplicación del método de comparación, se observa correspondencia plena de las características antemortem y postmortem analizadas, por lo que se puede confirmar que los restos analizados pertenecen al señor Salvador Allende Gossens”, afirmó el juez Mario Carroza en un comunicado.

El magistrado agregó que “los restos óseos exhumados se encuentran íntegros, es decir, no hay pérdida de piezas pese a las inhumaciones y exhumaciones realizadas en 1973 y 1990”.

Los restos de Allende fueron sepultados tras el golpe militar del 11 de septiembre de 1973 en una tumba anónima en el balneario de Viña del Mar, 120 kilómetros al noro-



La senadora chilena Isabel Allende, aparece junto al ataúd de su padre, el presidente derrocado Salvador Allende, en Santiago, Chile.

(AP Photo/Roberto Candia)

este de esta capital. En 1990, tras el regreso de la democracia, fueron trasladados a Santiago a un mausoleo en el cementerio general. En esa oportunidad se realizó un multitudinario funeral oficial. El juez Carroza, encargado por la Corte Suprema para esclarecer la muerte del gobernante

socialista, informó asimismo que la identificación de la causa de su muerte demorará al menos tres meses. Aunque el examen odontológico confirmó la identidad de Allende, falta aún el resultado de los exámenes de ADN que fueron enviados a un laboratorio en Austria. □

Dominicana limita venta de comida callejera

SANTO DOMINGO (AP) — Autoridades sanitarias y municipales de República Dominicana comenzaron a desmantelar puestos de comida callejera y a instalar baños públicos para tratar de detener la propagación del cólera, cuya expansión avanza en los barrios marginales. “Pretender radicar en su totalidad los puestos de comida (ambulantes) es imposible, pero sí podemos imponer reglas de higiene”, comentó el miércoles a la AP el vocero del ayuntamiento de la capital, José Miguel Carrión. Personal del ayuntamiento realiza operativos para verificar las condiciones sanitarias de los puestos ambulantes de comida casera para que cumplan con medidas de higiene básicas, como el uso de agua purificada o clorada y sólo vendan alimentos bien cocidos. Las restricciones a la venta de comida en la calle ya habían sido establecidas por solicitud del ministerio de Salud en la zona fronteriza con Haití, luego de que en octubre comenzó en ese país la epidemia de cólera que ha causado más de 4.800 muertes allí. En República Dominicana se han reportado 14 decesos por la epidemia. □

Dominicana

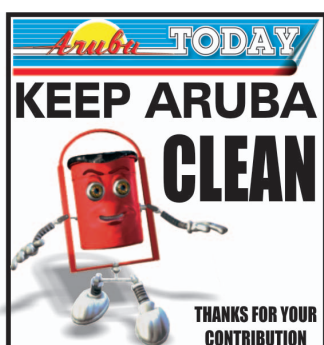
5.100 personas evacuadas cercanas a represa

SANTO DOMINGO (AP) — Más de 5.100 personas han sido evacuadas de una decena de poblados rurales en el centro de República Dominicana ante el inminente desbordamiento de la represa de cola de la mina de oro Barrick Pueblo Viejo, informaron el jueves los grupos de socorro.

José Luis Germán, vocero del Centro de Operaciones de Emergencias (COE), dijo a la AP que los evacuados fueron trasladados a casas de familiares o conocidos, así como a un refugio instalado en una iglesia de Cotuí, 120 kilómetros al norte de la capital.

Entre las personas trasladadas a refugios se encuentran todos los empleados de la empresa minera, ubicada a unos 105 kilómetros al norte de Santo Domingo, detalló Germán.

Aunque la represa de El Llagal ha estado en funcionamiento desde los años 70, cuando operaba la mina de oro La Rosario, la empresa Barrick comenzó su reconstrucción recientemente para habilitarla a fin de que esté lista nuevamente para la extracción de oro, prevista para finales de este año. □





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